THE LITERARY CHRONICLE

And Weekly Reviely;

Forming on Analysis and General Repository of Literature, Philosophy, Science, Arts, History, Biography, Antiquities, Morals, Manners, the Drama, and Amusements.

Brief Index to the present Number:—Reviews: The Antiquary's Portfolio, 689; Amy Robsait, Emma, and other Poems, 691; Useful Hints to Travellers going to, or already arrived in, South America, 691; The English in Italy, 692; The Philomathic Journal and Literary Review, 693; Moore's Life of Sheridan, continued, 696; The Natural History of the Bible, by Dr. Harris, 696; Bruce's Oriental Manuscripts, 698—Conspiracy of the Jesuits against Queen Elizabeth and James 1, 698.—Not Admirari, No. XII., 700.—God and Man, 700.—Original Poetry: Shakspeare's Cliff, 700.—The Drama, 700.—Literature and Science: Many new Particulars of Capt. Parry's last Voyage, 701.—The Bec, 703.

No. 337.

LONDON, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1825.

Price 6d.

REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

The Antiquary's Portfolio; or, Cabinet Selection of Historical and Literary Curiosities, on Subjects principally connected with the Manners, Customs, and Morals; Civil, Military, and Ecclesiastical Governments, &c. &c. of Great Britain, during the Middle and Latter Ages. (With Notes.) By J. S. FORSYTH. 2 vols. 8vo. pp. 783. London, 1825. Wightman.

BISHOP EARLE, in his Microcosmographia, describes an antiquary as one who contemns printed books, 'as a novelty of this latter age, but a manuscript he pores on everlastingly, especially if the cover be all moth eaten, and the dust make a parenthesis between every syllable.' Notwithstanding this observation, and the many other severe things said against antiquaries by the English Theophrastus, they have conferred much service on letters by their labours. The world is too apt to consider the studies of the antiquary as dry and uninteresting; while, on the contrary, few pursuits are more attractive to the individual who prosecutes them, and they are often productive of much curious and valuable matter of general interest. That such is the case, the Antiquary's Portfolio shows; for we have seldom met with a more entertaining work. It exhibits a highly curious and interesting picture of the customs and manners of our ancestors, at different periods of English history, and enables us to contrast the deplorable state of the human mind at remote penods with the present enlightened age. That a work of this sort, if well executed, must contain a great body of information will be readily believed, but we confess we did not expect to find such a fund of amusement as Mr. Forsyth has provided in his charming work, the authenticity of which may be fully

After an introduction, in which Mr. Forsyth gives a brief notice of some of the older antiquaries, he commences his work with an interesting memoir of the celebrated historian and antiquary, Stow; then follow curious particulars of the customs and manners of the ancient English; the arts, sciences, and commerce, &c. from the heptarchy to the time of Richard II. Singular incidents, biographical sketches, anecdotes of the government, morals, manners, and amusements of the British at various periods; unpublished Particulars connected with the resignation of the crown of England to the pope by King ohn, from the national library in France; wal letters, from the time of Henry III. to hat of Richard III. inclusive. Such are a er of the general subjects in the first vome; the second volume, which commences with a memoir of Evelyn, is equally varied

and interesting. A few of the articles are, perhaps, too well known, and the seventy or eighty pages occupied with extracts from a work so recently published as Pepys's Memoirs, might have been better employed by a person of Mr. Forsyth's good taste and industry. We may also note, that at p. 224, in the second volume, the Black Act is called the Black Art, an error which Mr. F. will do well to correct, in a second edition, which we doubt not his work will soon reach. Here end our complaints, and we now proceed to the more pleasing duty of exemplifying the truth of our warm commendations by a few extracts:—

Welsh Laws with respect to Divorce.—We are but little acquainted with respect to the divorces of the Anglo-Saxons, although they sometimes appear: but the Welsh laws allowed the husband to put away his wife for behaviour tending toward adultery; while on her part, she might, on very slight grounds, separate her concerns from his. It was sufficient cause if she discovered he had an ill-scented breath.—Leges Wallice.

Conjugal Authority of the Welsh.—As regards conjugal authority, our neighbours of Wales allotted decisively that, if the wife called her husband opprobrious names—pulled him by the beard—squandered away his goods—or lastly, if he found her in bed with another man, the injured spouse might give her three blows with a stick on any part of her head. But if he should beat her more severely, or for a less cause, he was liable to pay a considerable fine.

Education of their Children.—In the education of their children, the Anglo-Saxons only sought to render them dauntless and apt for the two most important occupations of their future lives—war and the chase. It was an usual trial of a child's courage, to place him on the sloping roof of a building, and if, without screaming, or terror, he held fast, he was styled a stout herce, or brave boy.—Howel.

Customs of the Normans.—'The Normans were sober and delicate at their meals when they first invaded England: it was not long, however, before they equalled their predecessors in feasting, and even added costly epicurism to brutal gluttony. Yet two meals each day supplied the place of the Anglo-Saxon four; and Robert de Mellart, prime minister and favourite of Henry Beauclerc, strove hard to reduce those two to one.—W. Malmsb.

'Among the most despotic barons there was a kind of gross hospitality and indiscriminate charity, which caused their tyranny to be overlooked.

'The dinner was held at nine in the

morning, the supper at five in the afternoon, Besides the common meats, many dishes were used, with the composition of which we are not now acquainted. As to liquors, they had several kinds, compounded of honey, of spices, and mulberry juice, such as hypocras, pigment, claret, perry, and ale.

"panis peperatis" was a sort of gingerbread. Wassal cakes and lemuel cakes, as they were part of the royal allowance of the King of Scots when in England, were probably made of the finest meal.—Rym. Fædera.

' Medical Knowledge. - Medical knowledge, at the commencement of the fourteenth century, seems to have been at a very low ebb. Gilbert English (the oldest writer on these subjects in our language) is said, by Dr. Freind, to have borrowed all his science from the Arabian writers. John de Gaddesden, whose "Medical Rose" is a compendium of the whole practice of physic used in England in his time, and who has been consulted by princes, and commended by Geoffry Chaucer, appears, by some of his recipes. to be extremely ignorant and superstitious. He cured, he says, a son of Edward II. of the small-pox, by wrapping him up in scarlet. cloth, and hanging scarlet curtains round his bed! As a remedy for the epilepsy, this fantastical physician orders the patient to be carried to church, to hear the mass during the fast "quatuor temporum," and afterwards to wear round his neck a verse of the day's gospel, written on a scroll by the priest. Yet John de Gaddesden, in his Rosa Anglica, points out the way of rendering salt water fresh by distillation, a discovery supposed to be of much more modern date.'

Royal Grants, &c.—In the index; or catalogue, published some years ago, by order of Parliament, there are various entries which relate to ancient customs, and which fix certain events to their true dates. To the lovers of English topographical history, these will doubtless be read with infinite advantage.

'In 1206, King John grants to W. de Camville, a license to destroy game in any of the royal forests, which proves the origin of the game laws.

'1245. Gryffidth, son of Llewellyn, King of Wales, fell from a window in the Tower, and broke his neck, accidentally.

1267. Henry III. sold and pawned the gold, precious stones, and other jewels, of the shrine of St. Edward, at Westminster.

'1342. King Edward III. forgives to the mayor and citizens of London, the indignation and rancour of mind that he had conceived against them.

'1344. Certain trustees were appointed to pawn the great crown, and other regalia, in foreign parts.

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' 1344. The king grants to Adam Thorp, the triamer of his board, certain lands at Eye, near Westminster. The scrupulous attention which Edward III. paid to that ornament of his face, may be seen in his bronze effigy in Westminster Abbey, which was taken from a

mask after his death.

' 1345. W. de Langley, high-bailiff of the forest of Inglewood, is sworn before the king, that, as often as it shall tend to the king's honeur, he will grant a day's coursing of deer, and other game, to knights and gentlemen, to ladies and other noble personages; and, as an especial proof of his royal considera tion, "to weak, sickly, or pregnant women." This is an additional proof of the respect paid to the other sex, in days usually termed barbarous and Gothic.

'1360. Richard de Wye is appointed the ing, too, was held at Leicester, to avoid the king's surgeon for life, with twelvepence daily wages, and eight marcs per annum.

'1409. The king settles on Joan of Navarre, his queen, £10,000 per annum.

'1414. The same queen has a grant of 10,000 marcs from the sale of the lands belonging to the alien priories.

'1417. Henry V. grants to Joan Warin, his nurse, an annuity of £20 during life.

1422. The jewels which had belonged to King Henry V., and were valued at so large a sum as £40,000. were delivered to Sir Henry Fitz-Hugh, and his other executors, for the payment of his personal debts.

'1330. Safe conduct granted to the Bishop of Durham through the diocese of the Archbishop of York, because so fierce a contest had existed between them, concerning their

dignities and pre-eminences.

'1369. Thomas De L'Isle, bishop of Ely, having consumed the store belonging to the said see, which consisted of four hundred and seventy-one oxen, two hundred and ninety hackneys, forty-two cart horses, &c., the king granted him £706. 13s. 4d. that he might replenish it with that sum; which store was to remain for ever, to the use of the said bishop and his successors.

'In the year 1203, King John granted a protection to the merchants of Portugal, who

then traded to England.

1214. The Knights Templars first obtained a license for exporting the wool grown upon their estates.

1267. The origin of barriers, or turnpikes, in a grant of a penny for each waggon

passing through a manor.

' 1339. A right of mining for gold and silver, and searching for hidden treasure, granted to the inhabitants of Devonshire for ever.

'In 1444, a patent was granted to John Cobbe, that by the art of philosophy he might transfer imperfect metals from their own proper nature, and transmute them into gold or silver.'

We now proceed to the singular incidents, &c., from which we cull the following :-

The Apostute Jewess.—Elizabeth, a Jewish convert, the daughter of Rabbi Moses, was allowed twopence per day, in 1403, for being deserted by her family on account of her change as to religion.'

Dearth of Surgeons .- 1417. It appears, from Rymer's Fædera, that Henry author-

ized "John Morstede, to press as many surgeons as he thought necessary for the French expedition, together with persons to make their instruments." It is also true, and appears in the same book of records, that with the army which won the day at Agincourt, there had landed only one surgeon, the same John Morstede, who indeed did engage to find fifteen more for the army, three of whom, however, were to act as archers!! With such a professional scarcity, what must have been the state of the wounded on the day of battle?'

'The Parliament of Bats.—1426. The parliament which met in February was called the "Parliament of Bats," since the senators, being ordered to wear no swords, attended armed with clubs or bats. Their meet-

tumult of a London mob.'

' Death of General Fitzgerald, Earl of Kildare.-In 1513, died the most powerful baron and active soldier of his age, General Fitzgerald, Earl of Kildare. He had been, during thirty years, at different times, chief governor of Ireland, and was too potent to be set aside, otherwise his strong attachment to the house of York would probably have been his ruin. The untameable spirit of the earl sometimes involved him in trouble, from which he was extricated by a lucky bluntness; as when once, when charged before Henry VIII with setting fire to the cathedral of Cashel, "I own it," said the earl, "but I never would have done it had I not believed that the archbishop was in it." The king laughed, and pardoned the ludicrous culprit. The Bishop of Meath was his bitterest foe. He accused him to Henry of divers misdeeds, and closed his accusation with "Thus, my liege, you see that all Ireland cannot rule the earl." "Then," said the perverse monarch, "the earl shall rule all Ireland," and instantly made him lorddeputy. The English loved the earl because he was brave and generous, and because his good humour equalled his valour. Once, when he was in a furious paroxysm, a domestic who knew his temper, whispered in his ear, "My lord, yonder fellow has betted me a fine horse, that I dare not take a hair from your lordship's beard; I pray, my lord, win me that wager." The earl's features relaxed, and he said to the petitioner, "Take the hair, then, but if thou exceedest thy demand, my fist shall meet thy head."

'This earl was ordered to discontinue his motto. "Crom r boo." as it caused feuds between the noble Irish families.—Collins,

MS. relative to the Fitzgeralds.'

We shall conclude, for the present, with two original letters by King Charles I .:-

'Original letters of King Charles I., affording historical evidence of two interesting events in the reign of that unfortunate monarch.

'The following letters have remained, from the remote period in which they were written, among the family documents of the late Henry Fotherley, Esq. of Whitfield, of the Bury, in the parish of Rickmansworth, in the county of Hertfordshire, whose ancestor, Sir Ralph Whitfield (who married Dorothy, daughter of Sir Henry Spelman, the cele- vices.

brated antiquary), was prime serjeant to King Charles the First:-

"Charles R .- Right trusty and well-beloved councillor, we greet you well. Whereas (in regard of our residence) wee have thought fit to have the next terme kept in this our citty of Yorke; our will and expresse command therefore is, that you forthwith give order that Trinity Terme next bee adjourned to this our citty, to be holden at the usuall time; and that the writts of adjournment bee issued forth accordingly, under our greate seal, for doing thereof. And that a proclamation bee presently sent out, to give timely notice, in the several counties of this our kingdome and dominion of Wales; and for the more orderly and formall performance hereof, wee will that you advise with our judges, soe that all things necessary for the premisses bee timely and effectually performed; for which this shall bee your warrant.

"Given att our court at Yorke, the 14th

of May, 1642.

"I expect your obedience in this, without reply, and with as much secresie as the business can aford.

"To our right trusty and well-beloved councellor, Edward Lord Littleton, keeper

of our greate seale of England.

" My Lord Keeper, -I cannot say that your last letter of the 13th of May is the cause of this (the necessitie of my affaires being the only trew motive of it); but I asseure you it gives me the more confidence to believe that what I command in this will have the more willing obedience. It is this: I fynde an absolute necessitie (the particular reasons I have not tyme to show you), that you and my great seale should wait upon mee heere with all possible speede, bothe for your good and myne; therefor my expresse will and pleasur is, that immediatlie after the receipt of this you take your jurnie hither, with as much diligence as your boddie will permitt you. Now, because I cannot expect you shall make such haste, but that an order of Parlament must overtake to stop you (if they have a mynd to it); therefor I have commanded this bearer, my servant, Tho. Elyot, to receave the greate seale from you, and to bring it to me with all possible speede; in all which as I command your reddie and punctuall obedience, without delayes or reply; so I do asseur you, upon the faithe of a Christian, that I have not the least thought of keeping it from you; but, on the contrarie, not only to returne it to you, how soone ye cum hither, but also I meane to show you, that heerin I intend your particular good, as well as my owen service, for you shall fynde me really to be your constant " CHARLES R. frend,

"Secresie in this is requisit, as well as obedience; therefor I command you as few as may be know of your jurnie, but none except this bearer (if it bee possible) that the greate seale is sent before you.

" Yorke, 19 May, 1642.

"In this if I fynde in you a cheerfull obedience, I shall put on your fidelitie such a marke of my favor, as shall testifie the great estimation I have of your person and ser-(To be continued.)

Amy Robs NICHOL of New London The first p on the mur Leicester b the author her by me Torre has man the s which her band, and scribed wit very spirite Ye brave First in the When festiv Or war's los Say, noble l

> Of beauty's throne, Ye vainly la To fix your One-at wh wave,

One—at wh slave-Did no sly p No rumour bride?"

What—thr board. The nuptial Norrais'd the To pledge the Saw ye not 1 Pride in his Amid the fai

Herself mos forth; Whilst admi: And secret en 'And say, wh Adorn'd his When knight rhyme,

Grac'd not th 'Mid queenworth? Not such the Whose fate v wed:

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Amy Robsart, Emma, and other Poems, By NICHOLAS TORRE, Esq., formerly Fellow of New College, Oxford. 12mo. pp. 118. London, 1825. Whittaker.

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The first piece in this little volume is founded on the murder of the beauteous Countess of Leicester by her husband, the earl, who, as the author of Kenilworth observes, destroyed her by means of her best affections. Mr. Torre has made the fate of this lovely woman the subject of a very pretty poem, in which her beauty, her affection for her husband, and her melancholy death, are described with much pathos. The opening is very spirited :-

'Ye brave and gay, whose courtly forms were

First in the train of England's virgin queen, When festive pomp your royal mistress charm'd, Or war's loud note her jealous ear alarm'd,— Say, noble knights! if, tir'd or careless grown Of beauty's ranks that cluster'd round the

Ye vainly languish'd, for some form of light, To fix your homage and entrance your sight, One—at whose nod a thousand swords might

One—at whose feet ye each would kneel,—a

Did no sly page your steps to Cumnor guide? No rumour whisper, "Look on Leicester's

'What-throng'd ye not in festal pomp the

The nuptial banquet of your god-like lord; Norrais'd the goblet, with accordant sign, To pledge the welfare of your host in wine? Saw ye not Dudley, with a mien of pride, Pride in his fame, yet prouder of his bride, Amid the fairest daughters of the north, Herself most fair, his blushing choice lead

Whilst admiration fix'd the general gaze, And secret envy turn'd to silent praise?

'And say, when scenic pomp and festive glee Adorn'd his gates to welcome majesty,

When knightly feats, gay mask, and minstrel's

Pour'd all their spells to gild the wings of time, Grac'd not the bride, in scenes of stately mirth, Mid queen-led dames, the halls of Kenil-

Not such the life that faultless beauty led, Whose fate was cast with Leicester's lord to

At love's command, though wealth, with magic

Wealth beyond all her sex could wish or waste, Adorn'd her home, its stores in vain adorn, And mock the heart with secret sorrow worn. 0 empty vanities of gold and pearl!

The wife avow'd of England's noblest earl, Midst England's matrons seeks, with virtuous

Her only honour by her husband's side; This the base laws ambition owns deny; This-the vain schemes of craven policy.

'Through Lidcote's halls no eye with joy grew

When their young heiress pledg'd her nuptial

No sound of revelry that rite confess'd,

No parent's lips those vows approv'd and bless'd;

his was the grief, that comes with tenfold

To weep and wonder o'er her doubtful fate;

Nor her's less bitter agony, to know

A word she must not breathe might end his

After noticing the gentle complaint of Amy at her lord's frequent absence and his excuse, the poet hastens on to the catas

' Quench'd is that fire, which bright yet harm-

From eyes that seem'd in liquid light array'd; Yet from those dark blue orbs how soft the ray, Like Eve's mild star, when sunlight fades

Joy's smile hath fled, yet oh! can aught eclipse The beam that breaks from those divided lips, That tells, though man hath wrought her earth-

Mute resignation to a mightier will!

She mourns, but murmurs not: oppress'd by

What heart rejects the balm that hope bestows? And hope was her's, that soon, with joy elate, Freed from the trammels and fatigues of state, By true love taught ambition's schemes to

And 'midst his wide domains with her to dwell, Weary would Leicester turn.-Pensive and

Scar'd by each sound that swells the passing

Sad as th' imprison'd bird, she wears away The ling ring hours and chides her lord's delay : "Ah me! how fondly on his looks 'twas mine To gaze, and feed with rapture; mark each

That gave delight's or grief's impression there, The smile of peace, or thoughtful brow of care! How fondly have my thoughts in absence fed On all, when last he came, his lips have said; Dwelt on his tender glance when fore'd to part. And treasur'd up (how deeply!) in my heart Its melancholy sweetness!—Dudley, now, True to thy word, and mindful of thy vow, Wilt thou not come again ?—I know thou wilt, My every hope alone on thee is built."

'Hark! was the watchful ear of love misled? Oh! heard it not the horseman's hurried tread? Hark !- the glad sound so oft, so long, implor'd—

It is—it is—the signal of her lord.

He comes; not vain the one fond hope she nurs'd,

All wrongs forgotten, every grief dispers'd,— A thousand feelings rushing o'er her breast,— One bound she gave, and——

-Who shall tell the rest ?-Dare ye gaze, murderer's! down that dark

Are there no thunderbolts in Heaven for this? Dare ye-oh God! the heart grows sick, and

To name, or think on, this accurs'd of deeds. And thou, false lord! aye-doff that mien of

Call on the hills thy guilt and shame to hide; Call—but in vain! look on that bleeding corse, And live—the victim of long deep remorse!"

Mr. Torre displays considerable poetic talent in this poem, as well as in several of the minor pieces, particularly the following, the subject of which one of the Scottish novels furnishes:--

'CALEB BALDERSTONE.

"-- He saw him reach the fatal spot, but he never saw him pass further. No trace whatever of horse or rider could be discerned.—One only vestige of his fate appeared.

A large sable feather had been detached from his hat, and the rippling waves of the rising tide wafted it to Caleb's feet. The old man took it up, dried it, and placed it in his bo-

Bride of Lammermoor, vol. 3, p. 127. Vain search along the rocky shore! Vain search the rising tide beneath !-Nor trace of strife, nor stain of gore,

Proclaims the fatal spot of death. Here, last beheld by anxious eyes, In furious haste the victim sped; Yet will not ocean yield his prize,

Nor treacherous sands restore the dead. 'Go, faithful vassal! know'st thou not 'Twas doom'd that, on the Kelpie's flood

Thy lord should end his earthly lot, Last of the race of Ravenswood? Go, search no more! its destin'd prey The wide tenacious depth retains; Nor vestige left, in light of day,

Of steed or rider yet remains. But mark! a plume of sable hue Borne on the rippling wave appears ;-Aye-wipe away the briny dew, And press it to thy lip in tears!

Yes-place it in thy faithful breast, And wear it next thy feeling heart; It once adorn'd thy master's crest,

And ne'er from thee through life shall part. Yet brief the remnant of thy days, Brief shall thy term of sorrow be; For life's protracted length conveys Its charm and zest no more to thee: Amid those old forsaken halls

Thy faltering steps awhile may roam; But blest shall be the hour that calls Thy spirit to its "last long home."

Useful Hints to Travellers going to, or already arrived in, South America; and to Military Men, or Merchants bound to the West Indies, India, or any other Tropical Climate. 12mo. pp. 120. London, 1825. Churchill.

As the recognition by the British government of the republics in the new world is likely to render an intercourse with South America more frequent than with Southend, or even Southampton, a few useful hints to travellers crossing the Atlantic for the tropical climates, cannot fail of being seasonable. These the author of this little work has undertaken to supply in a plain, concise, and intelligible manner. After a few general hints on the preservation of health in variable climates, he describes the food, dress, &c. necessary to use, and the sleep and exercise which ought to be taken, in order to secure good health. There appears to be much good sense in his observations, and his work contains a good deal of information, which cannot fail of proving very useful to travellers and residents in tropical climates. Some medical and surgical remarks, and a few memoranda on the properties and proportions of medicines are added. The following observations on the varied climates of South America will serve for a specimen of the author's style:-

'South America next presents an object of great interest to British commercial interests; and therefore attracting numerous speculators, and other visitants from our northern latitudes, equally demands precautions in many parts of its extensive states. But in proportion to the extent of that continent, and the height of its mountains, it commands climates of almost every temperature. Humboldt, when writing on this subject, remarks, that the salubrity of tropical situations; depends more on their dryness, than on any

other property.

' For instance, the burning province of Cumania in Columbia, and the scoreling plains in the neighbourhood of Caracas, prove, that excessive heat alone is not absolutely hostile to human life; except when producing the coup de soleil. And besides, when it does increase beyond what the resident may deem tolerable, the Andes are near; and, by rising their altitudes, the temperature of the torrid zone is suddenly changed, to the summer heat of Europe, or to the more genial, milder warmth of our springs. Yet it must also be understood. the vicissitudes of an European atmosphere may be anticipated; hence prudence commands the traveller to take clothing with him adapted to either climate. For instance, cloth coats and trowsers, great coats, and cloaks, mingled with the lighter apparel prepared for the torrid zone.

'All writers on the subject concur in admitting the different laws to which the corresponding degrees of the two hemispheres are applicable, with respect to the distribution of heat and cold. The variation in the same latitude has been estimated at twelve, or more degrees; but according to relative situation, it must be greater. Indeed, the-dissimilarity of climate between the eastern and western sides of the American continent, from this cause, and that of the varoable winds is a striking fact. Lima, well known to be only a very little farther on one side of the equator, than burnt up Carthagena lies on the other, possesses a pleasant, moderate degree of heat; while Quito, although close to the line, from its elevated situation is scarcely warmer than Paris in summer. Then again, La Guara, the chief port of Caracas, is perhaps the hottest spot on the coast; and Bogota, the capital of Colombia, stands under so piercing an atmosphere, the lungs of a stranger often suffer

temporary evil from its keenness.

• This surprising difference of temperature on the same quarter of the transatlantic con- to the European traveller in these countries, tinent depends on several circumstances; to carry amongst his closely compacted bagfor instance, on the elevation, depression, extent, or form of the country; also, the direction of the winds, the cultivation of the soil, proximity, and height of mountains, vicinity to the sea; and many other things which modify the climate, besides its distance from the equator, and consequently more vertical or oblique incidence of the solar rays. There can, indeed, be no dispute between the superior salubrity of the tableland in the centre of the country, and the atmosphere beneath, amongst uncleared, woody valleys, or the flat swampy tracts often lining the sea coasts. The city of Mexico, for instance, possesses the benefit of the one, and Vera Cruz, the disadvantages of the other. Yet it is satisfactory to the traveller thither, to know, that by the ascent of only a few hours on to the plain tableland in its vicinity, he arises at once beyond

all reach of the vapours beneath, or impression of their apprehended baleful influence.

Baron Humboldt's admirable talent at describing, from the just observations he makes, will give a true picture of these climates, gradually cooling in atmosphere, as we rise in the scale of ascent; and also the face of nature, bearing the correspondent complexion and features. He is painting the transition of the traveller, passing upward from the burning sea-coast, to the mountain-top region of perpetual snow.

"The admirable order (he exclaims) with which different tribes of the vegetable world rise above one another, by strata as it were, is nowhere more perceptible than in ascending from the port of Vera Cruz to the tableland of Perote. We see there the physiognomy of the country, the aspect of the sky, the form of plants, the figures of animals, the manners of the inhabitants, and the kinds of cultivation followed by them, assume a different appearance, at every step of our progress. As we ascend, nature gradually appears less luxuriant, and less teeming with ephemeral life; and the sight of the Mexican oak quiets the alarm of travellers newly landed at Vera Cruz. Then come the forests distilling liquid amber, near Xalapa, announcing by the freshness of their verdure, that this is the elevation at which the clouds, sailing on from the steaming ocean, come in dewy contact with the basaltic towering cliffs of the Cordillera. A little higher, near La Banderilla, nature begins its frigid influence, and you find the nutritive fruit of the Banana tree no more acquiring its maturity. In this foggy, and cold, and comparatively sterile region, want spurs the native to labour, and even a moderate success excites his diligence; but it is more than moderate. Industry creates it all a garden. At the height of San Miguel, pines begin to mingle with the oaks; which are also found as high as Perote, mixed with tracts of waving corn. Mount yet farther, and the sternness of the climate will no longer admit the vegetation of the oak, and pines alone cover the sides of rocks; whose summits enter the line of eternal snow."

This account ought to be a sufficient hint gage, suitable changes of garment for them all; and, happily, not only flannel is a general preservative, as forming part of the under apparel, but the beaver hat of Europe, when of a light colour is adaptable to any climate; the thickness of its fabric, like the folding turban of the east, excluding both the ferocity of the sun's heat, and the piercing inclemency of a freezing atmosphere.'

The English in Italy. In three volumes post 8vo. pp. 946. London, 1825. Saunders and Otley.

THE rambling disposition of our countrymen has afforded amusement as well as money to the people they have visited, particularly the Italians and the French; the unbending sturdiness of our character, the purse-proud arrogance, and the affected love of the arts, accompanied, as is not unusual, with much ice covered with the juice of the right purple

ignorance, have all served as subjects on which the French and Italians have cracked their jokes and launched their shafts of ridicule-but in vain; the English have quitted their homes, squandered their money, rendered themselves ridiculous with the most stoical indifference. Remonstrances founded on patriotism or kindred affection have been used in vain; arguments the most feasible on the folly of a high-minded people lessening their dignity have had no effect; at length our author has stepped forth, in order to laugh his countrymen out of their folly, by the truth of his delineations and the keen satire of his remarks in The English in Italy, where, though names are omitted, many an English traveller will see himself reflected as in a mirror. The sketches, we are assured, are from the life, and they have an individuality about them that gives them all the appearance of portraits, though confessedly coloured; this. however, being, as the author says, 'to the decking forth, not to the superseding of truth.'

The author of The English in Italy has evidently mixed freely with the society he describes, and his graphic pen presents some striking pictures, altogether forming an entertaining work, which cannot fail of being very popular. We confess, however, we have taken up these volumes rather too late in the week to give that analysis of them we could wish, and shall merely observe that the work is divided into tales and sketches, one of which we subjoin, and shall return to the work in our next:-

' The Grograms .- Mister and Mistress Grogram were an extremely honest and respectable couple, that weary of their "childless hall," in Warwickshire, drove with their own sleek horses, and sleeker coachman, to the great annoyance of all three animals, over the Alps. The sleek coach-horses were soon eaten up, all except the tails, as an Irishman would say, by flies and musquitos; and Mr. or rather Mrs. Grogram was induced to exchange the pair of skeletons with a Parmese count for a bit of stucco framed in a glass case, with a fragment of a nose represented thereon, consisting of two transverse strokes of a brush, said to be by the inimit-

able Correggio.

''Squire Grogram hated the smell of the sea, and, therefore, hated all the continent, being transmarine. His most frequent moral reflection, excited by travel, was that he had not seen a morsel of beef worth eating since he left Dover; and that article of food being wretched throughout Lombardy, he hurried to Florence, being told that the Tuscan market was supplied with excellent meat. He was not disappointed. Better roasting viands are not to be found before the doors of the Fleet-prison, than may be carved in Tuscany; and if the rogues could be persuaded not to stuff, anoint, and otherwise in every possible way odorise their sirloins with garlie, an Englishman might fancy himself at home for all the supererogatory sunshine. Aleatico is no bad substitute for port; the liquor having the strength, one may compound with its sweetness. And a lump of

grape, fo declared 'Wha emigrate averred, tite that until latt myself, I no other will, who bottoms, terary far conquera 'Grog the John attempt t ing the abhorred fortunate Grogram Grogram city," he way, the

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grape, forms a beverage that even Grogram declared supreme.

What could have led the worthy man to emigrate I cannot determine; he himself averred, it was to recover a very good appetite that he had been always blessed with, until latterly it had begun to decline. For myself, I believe in my heart, the cause was no other than Mrs. Grogram's peremptory will, who being a first cousin to the Ramsbottoms, was bitten by that travelled and literary family, and thence seized by an unconquerable desire to visit foreign parts.

Grogram was one of those very few of the John Bull tribe, who did not make the attempt to fling off hoofs and horns on passing the Aps. With George the second, he abhorred "poetry and painting," which unfortunate arts, as discarded by her lord, Mrs Grogram took under her especial protection. Grogram liked Turin, "it was a Christian city," he said, "where a man might find his way, the eating good, the asti excellent, and the appetite always on the alert, owing to the sharp air of Mount Snee;" a Piedmontese, he averred, would think nothing of eating a bundle of sticks with his dinner.—"Sticks, Mr. Grogram?"—" Aye, sir, sticks, a kind of brittle canes, which they devour as bread. Like egg-shells, they help digestion."

'Grogram censured the Milanese as blockheads, for calling a parcel of white pinnacles a dome, a sapient piece of criticism in which even Mrs. G. joined; who observed, moreover, that the course was a pretty place on the top of a wall for driving, very pleasant only for a number of horse-serjeants, that kept drilling the carriages in a most tormenting manner, as if the Milanese troops drove in carriages, and charged the enemy in chariots, like the old Britons in the beginning

of Goldsmith's history.

'Venice, Mrs. Grogram had heard, and consequently Mrs. Grogram believed, to have been built on wood, which wood floated with all the superincumbent edifices. The wag, who ventured so far would have been contented with having passed so much on the good folks' credulity. The sagacity of the Grograms went further, and agreed, " If It floats surely it may sail." "No doubt," quoth the ready informant, "the city does once a year sail round the Mediterranean, there are three tall red masts in the midst of St. Mark's Place, if you observe, to which the sails for wafting the city are suspended." So much were the poor Zingari subdued and set astray from confidence in their common sense, by the wonders of Italy, that although they did not altogether believe this Gulliver's tale, yet they actually argued the point, and asked the possibility of such a thing's being the case, of a countryman, on whose sagacity they relied.

'When Grogram arrived in Florence in search of sunshine and prime beef, he must have propitiated his good genius to keep him from the extreme of the ridiculous; for attempting to reach the famed gallery in company with his spouse, a lumbago seized him in the third huge flight of the staircase, and forbade any farther ascent! and Mrs. Grogram was abandoned alone to all the absurdi-

ties that the very atmosphere of a great picture gallery is fraught with to any of the Zingari. What havoc to be sure the poor lady did make in that part of the Cruscan vocabulary, which the artist tribe have formed

for their own peculiar use.

'These, however, are an every day species of blunders, so common, that I should not stoop to glean them, but for another whim of Mrs. G.'s that is really well worthy of record. No rural spouse of chaste England loved her lord more than did the lady in question. To wrong the good man, even in thought, was remote from her virtuous mind—but people come abroad to be fashionable, said Mrs. Grogram, we keep our carriage, Mr. Grogram, and what can the best lord of the land here do more.

" Well, my dear," said Grogram.

' But the lady keep her conclusion to her

own proper breast.

'This was, that having servants, horses, carriages, and all the insignia of wealth and rank, she should, like foreign ladies favoured with those blessings, superadd to them the convenience of a cicisbeo. Blame me not for the word, delicate reader — Mrs. Grogram spoke it in the best pronunciation she might, the pair of words, now used as a more decorous synonyme, being too venturous for the lady's bocca Britanno to attempt. Far from her imagination at the time was an indelicate or unchaste idea—is it not strange, that in these connections between the sexes, foreigners can at once yield to vice, yet at the same time preserve dignity; whilst the unskilful British unite the mere semblance of vice to all that is ridiculously attached to it? Practice, practice it is that makes perfect; certain it is that in Italians we are prepared to overlook a thousand acts that would ruin one of ourselves for ever.

'Some "damned kind friend" must have persuaded poor Mrs. Grogram of the absolute necessity of this requisite to Italian fashion—"indeed what is a lady now-a-days even in England," said this friend, "without an ami de la maison, at least without a delicate approach to one?" Mrs. G. felt quite out of squares, and more ashamed of her honest husband's company, than if his days of wooing were only then drawing to a termination. Unfortunate was the wight, young or old, on whom she could lay nands. Several young visiting acquaintances were at first highly flattered by the condescending attentions of Mrs. G.—but after a little time each drew back in affright from the foreseen vengeance of Mr. Grogram, which seemed as a necessary consequent upon such desparate friendships. Moreover, though a comely personage, the dame had few of the attractions necessary to bind an Englishman to a remarked and ridiculous place by her side. A companion in her carriage, an arm at a route, was all the wish of Mrs. Grogramthe fashion of the thing in short. But no it was impossible. Not one of her countrymen could she find amenable enough for the office, one that would condescend and at the same time comprehend the spirit of the pure and chivalric devotion which is its essence.

'Numerous were her experiments and at-

tempts, so numerous indeed, that they at last excited universal attention, and Mrs. Grogram's anxious desire to catch a cavalier became the private jest of her acquaintance. She at first flew high, and deemed herself equal to attach men of independence, rank, and fashion. Mrs. Grogram beheld similar thraldom exercised over beings as worthy by Italian dames, of no more wealth nor comeliness of person than had fallen to her own share; but the poor lady wanted the sceptre of fascination, and knew as little how to weave those bands of gossamer, as her liberty-loving countrymen knew how to submit to them. So that she was at last compelled to limit her aims to whomsoever she could catch; and her angling was very amusing.

'Some beaus she succeeded in holding for an evening, some for the next day, but beyond three days could she find none of her countrymen constant; for folks seldom journey so far in search of a dinner, or even a seat in an old lady's equipage. Foreigners were all appalled by their respect for the punctilious dignity of an Englishwoman, and at the same time repelled by the countenance of the particular lady in question from daring to aspire to a place, for which by education they were fit; and poor Mrs. Grogram would have wandered over Italy unfashionably, but that a certain count, a real indubitable count, though truly I cannot call to mind his name, paid Mr. Grogram a morning visit, for the purpose of asking him if he wanted to be taught Italian, or to have his shoes blacked, or if any menial office of the kind was vacant in his household, which he, the count, would be most willing and ready to undertake. Luckily, however, the Italian noble prefaced his demand by considerable circumlocution, in listening to which Mrs. Grogram displayed so much affability and graciousness, that the subtle Italian tacked and slackened sail to observe, if something better might not be made of Mrs. Grogram's mansion, than occupying a situation thus altogether menial. The count played his cards as skilfully as it behoves hungry men to do, and he became soon the chosen friend of the Casa Grogram, as he called it in the best pronunciation he

'I leave to the imagination of my reader to depict the lady and her attendant, conversing both in bad French, to the considerable amusement of every English beholder; as to Italians they wished their countryman joy of his good fortune, and saw nothing whatever extraordinary in the affair.'

The Philomathic Journal and Literary Review.—Conducted by the Members of the Philomathic Institution. Part VI. London, 1825. Longman and Co.

Some half century ago it was a favourite, and thought to be an attractive feature in a periodical, to say that it was conducted by a society of gentlemen, but fashion, even in authorship and editorship, is perpetualty changing, and it requires no ordinary degree of ingenuity to invent a new device. The Philomathic Journal, however, is a proof that, where real merit exists, even prejudices may be overcome, and notwithstanding amateur

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in vogue, yet here is a work conducted on this plan, which not only deserves success, but, we believe, commands it. The Philomathic Journal has already been favourably noticed in our pages, and although we seldom review periodicals, yet the merit of the Philomathic, and the extreme modesty with which it is conducted, entitle it again to our attention.

The present number of the Philomathic Journal, like its predecessors, consists of essays, discussions at the Philomathic Institution, reviews, and poetry; the first and second departments appear to us the best executed, though there is a very excellent review of the present state of the salmon fisheries, and some of the poetry is above mediocrity. The most prominent articles, however, are discussions on the question whether 'the punishment of death ought to he abolished?' 'Are mankind more influenced by the force of custom or the love of novelty?' and 'Are the laws regarding literary property founded in justice?" We shall confine ourselves to the first, which is not only the most important, but the longest

article in the present number.

It appears that the discussion on the punishment of death occupied five evenings; how the question was settled we know not, for although we suppose there was some decision, yet it does not appear to be reported; the arguments, however, were decidedly in favour of abolition, denying the right of any individual, or body of individuals, to deprive a fellow creature of life. It is not only on principle that this severity of punishment is contended against, but it is shown to be inconsistent with that only ground of policy on which it could be justified—the deterring of crime; indeed it is shown that, in proportion as the penalty of death has been attached to offences, those offences have increased, and our statute-book now visits with that penalty, two hundred and twenty-three offences! It would seem to require some ingenuity to divide offences so minutely; but this has really been done by the legislature. It may, however be asked, why does the severity of punishment increase the crime? The reasons to us are obvious; in the first place, juries, who would find a verdict of guilty when the idea of condemning to death an individual by their verdict; secondly, the law is too severe to be enforced, and hence nine tenths of the capital convictions are commuted for punishments less severe. The inefficiency of this draconian law is with legislators a better argument than its inhumanity against it, and we will therefore quote, from this powerful argument, the following historical notice of its effects, in various countries and ages :-

'History, both ancient and modern, supplies us with instances of wise and benevolent men setting examples of humane and enlightened policy to the rest of the world, by abolishing the punishment of death; and the most beneficial consequences have invarially followed such abolition.

'The earliest account we meet with, of this sort, is in Diodorus Siculus, from whom we I too, amongst the polished and luxurious in-

editors may generally have ceased to be learn, that Sabaco, king of Egypt, changed capital punishments, with much success, into stated kinds of labour; an example which has been sanctioned by the recommendation of no less an authority than that of Grotius.

'At Rome, too, for the space of about two hundred and fifty years, it was not lawful to put a citizen to death for any crime. It does not appear, that, during this happy period, crimes were either more frequent or more atrocious than they had previously been under the sanguinary laws of the twelve tables; but this is clear, that they were much less frequent and much less atrocious than after the punishment of death was again employed. Blackstone, indeed, goes so far as to hint, that the fall of the empire was in some measure owing to the revival of severe punishments. "The laws, (says he) of the Roman kings, and the twelve tables of the decemviri, were full of cruel punishments: the Porcian law, which exempted all citizens from sentence of death, silently abrogated them all. In this period the republic flourished: under the emperors, severe punishments were revived; and then the empire fell." The learned commentator could not mean, that the empire fell as the immediate consequence of the revival of severe punishments; but that such punishments, being calculated to deprave the public morals, were the means of introducing feelings and habits among the people, which, in the end, led indirectly to circumstances that contributed to the overthrow of the state.

'In modern times, we have the examples of Russia, Tuscany, and Austria, in which the punishment of death was abolished, and those of France, Holland, and America, in which it has been nearly abolished; and if these instances are properly considered, and compared with this country, it will clearly appear, that such a punishment is neither

effectual nor necessary.

'In Russia, the punishment of death was first abolished by the Empress Elizabeth, in all her extensive dominions. She reigned for twenty years, and was succeeded by Catherine II. who continued the same humane and enlightened system. Such was the great diminution of crime which resulted from the change, that Beccaria speaks of the beneficial consequences with enthusiasm; and so conpunishment was less severe, shudder at the | vinced was Catherine II. of the success which had attended the experiment of her predecessor, that, in her instructions for framing a new code of laws for the Russian empire, she permanently excluded the punishment of death. Of this alteration in Russia, Blackstone, also, has spoken in terms of approbation. After inquiring whether it was found upon experience, that capital punishments were more effectual than milder ones, he proceeds thus:—" Was the vast territory of all the Russias worse regulated under the late Empress Elizabeth, than under her more sanguinary predecessors? Is it now, under Catherine II. less civilized, less social, less

> 'Nor was it in the north only, and amongst an uncultivated people, that this important change was found beneficial. In the south,

habitants of Tuscany, a country of commerce and of arts, the same experiment was tried with equal, nay, if possible, with greater success. Leopold became grand duke of Tuscany three years after the death of the Empress Elizabeth. The punishment of death was then in force, and crimes of every kind. murders especially, were frequent. One of the first acts of his reign was to abolish the punishment of death, and substitute a graduated scale of milder punishments. The new plan he tried for twenty years, and in his introduction to the code, which he published in 1786, he informed the public what was the result :- during a considerable period, the prisons were empty, the number of smaller crimes was greatly diminished, and those of an atrocious nature were rendered very rare. Even those writers who have not exactly approved all the details of the new system, have been obliged to admit, that the abolition of the punishment of death diminished the frequency of murder. An anonymous writer, quoted by Mr. Montague in his " Collection of Opinions on the Punishment of Death," illustrates this by a statement so remarkable and important, that it is much to be regretted the authority for it is without the sanction of a name. From this account. given to the author by a person who had reresided five years in Tuscany, it appears, that after the grand duke had abolished the punishment of death, only five murders were perpetrated in his dominions in twenty years. The same person afterwards resided three menths at Rome, where murder continued to be punished with death, and where, according to Dr. Moore, executions are conducted with circumstances of peculiar public parade, and during that short period there were no less than sixty murders committed within the precincts of that city. This contrast is the more striking, as the manners and religion of the people are the same in both places, and the difference in the prevalence of crime can only be accounted for by the superior efficacy of the criminal code in Tuscany.

'Such was the force of examples set by Russia and Tuscany, that they were speedily followed in Austria, where a new code of criminal law was promulgated in 1787, by which the punishment of death was totally abolished. This code was framed by order of the Emperor Joseph II. who convened together various princes, civilians, and men of learning for the purpose. These, with the wisdom and experience of former ages before them, constructed a system of criminal law in which death, torture, and mutilation, found on place. Here then we have the testimony of a body of men possessing rank, power, talents, and knowledge, that the experiments made in Russia and Tuscany had been successful, and that capital punishments were

unnecessary.

'The contrast between this country and France, as to the prevalence of capital offences is astonishing. In the year 1820, there were one thousand two hundred and thirty-six sentences of death passed in Great Britain; during the same year, in France, with nearly treble the population, there were

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than one-tenth in proportion to the population of the respective countries. Yet in that country, though the punishment of death is not abolished, it is restricted to but a small number of offences; and it is remarkable, that murder, which is one of those, and for which death is almost invariably inflicted, is more common than any other capital crime.

'In Holland, too, we have the testimony of Howard, that though the punishment of death was in force, it was very seldom resorted to. He informs us, that there were seldom more than from four to six executions in a year; that in Amsterdam, for eight years prior to 1783, there had been only five executions; that in Leeuwarden, there had been no executions for fourteen years; and in Utrecht, that there had been none, either for the city or province, for twenty years. Such was the state of punishment. We may form a tolerable idea of the general state of crime from the case of Utrecht. In 1776, at Utrecht, he found no prisoners in the Stadthouse; in 1778, only one, and that not for a capital offence; in 1781, only five; and in 1783, only three.

'In America, the punishment of death is very nearly abolished; and with respect to a variety of offences, it has been repeatedly put to the test, and has never yet been found efficacious. In New England and Pennsylvania, horse stealing is not capital; in all the states south of Maryland it is capital; yet in the latter it is as common as it is in the former; nay, in Virginia, of all crimes it is the most frequent. In New Jersey, the punishment of death has been tried, and has most decidedly failed. There, at first, horsestealing was a capital offence; still the crime was not diminished by the severity of the punishment, which was therefore mitigated; the offence was not extirpated even by this improvement of the system, and after mildness had been tried for eleven years, recourse was again had to severity; a few years' experience, however, compelled the legislature to listen once more to the voice of humanity and sound policy, and the sanguinary penalty was finally repealed. Forgery is another crime on which the experiment has been tried with the same result. In the state of New York, lorgery is capital; in Pennsylvania, it is not so; and, in the latter, the crime is much less frequent. So convinced, indeed, was the attorney-general of the former state that the extreme severity of the punishment defeated its own object, that he presented a memorial to the legislature, recommending the substitution of a milder punishment than death. It is remarkable, too, that in New York, where forgery is capital, bank-bills have been often forged; while in Pennsylvania, where the punishment is imprisonment and hard labour, seven years have elapsed without a single forgery. In Pennsylvania, there are two species of arson, one of which is capital, while the other is merely a misdemeanour; and that which is capital is six times as frequent as that which is not, though the latter comprises a much greater variety of offences, and relates to property more exposed, and more liable to be set on fire. The advances

only three hundred and sixty-one, not more to the mild system, in this state, were very gradual; but so great has been the success attending it, that, as appears from the account given by Clarkson, in his Portraiture of Quakerism, "the state has experienced a diminution of crimes to the amount of one half, since the change of the penal system; and the criminals have been restored, in a great proportion, from the gaol to the com-

munity, as reformed persons." 'Such is the scene which presents itself to our view, both before and since the Christian dispensation; on the other side of the Atlantic, as well as on this; in populous countries, as well as in those thinly peopled; in commercial, as well as in agricultural states; among civilized and enlightened nations, as well as among the uncultivated and ignorant; among people, in short, of various climates, laws, religions, manners, habits, and pursuits. It would be highly gratifying if we could see the same in England; but it is an instructive, though melancholy fact, that notwithstanding there are in this country more capital offences and more executions than in any other, there is a great deal more crime. In the teeth of this notorious and indisputable fact, to talk of the punishment of death being efficacious, is mere raving; for it not only does not prevent crime altogether, which no one would be so absurd as to expect, but it does not even keep it stationary, or prevent its rapid and extensive increase. This will be perfectly clear, if we trace the progress of sanguinary laws, and the simultaneous in-

crease of various offences. 'There are about two hundred and twentythree offences which are made capital by the laws of England. Of these, six were so made in the course of the one hundred and fifty years that elapsed from Edward III. to Henry VII.; thirty in the next one hundred and fifty years, from Henry VIII. to Charles II.; and one hundred and eighty-seven in the last one hundred and fifty years. Taking another view of this increase of severe enactments, four offences were made capital under the Plantagenets; twenty-seven under the Tudors; thirty-six under the Stuarts; and one hundred and fifty-six under the family of Brunswick. More offences were made capital during the single reign of George III. than during the reigns of all the Plantagenets, Tudors, and Stuarts, put together. There are persons now living, at whose birth the number of capital offences did not exceed sixty-seven, and during whose lives, such offences have been multiplied more than threefold. At particular periods, indeed, the legislature seems to have been fully imbued with the sanguinary spirit of Draco, as in the instance of the famous Black Act, in which single statute, no less than seventeen capital offences were created-from destroying rabbits and breaking down a fish-pond. to malicious shooting at individuals, and setting fire to their dwellings. Surely, if severity could have exterminated crime, it would long since have ceased to exist; if blood could have washed the nation pure, the thousands and tens of thousands who have perished on the scaffold, would have been am-

ply sufficient to render the country a paradise of innocence. Yet, notwithstanding all this severity of punishment, has crime been kept under? With all this protection thrown around them, have the public been safe? In obtaining an answer to such inquiries, we will not apply to those who wish the punishment of death abolished, but to those who, instead of merely opposing the abolition, have called aloud for increased severity.

'The sanguinary author of Thoughts on Executive Justice, not merely admits, but maintains, as the ground of greater rigour, that "there are more crimes in England than in any other country; that we cannot travel the roads, or sleep in our houses, or turn our cattle into our fields, without the most imminent danger of thieves and robbers." "Highway robberies (he proceeds) threaten the traveller, whether by night or by day; the lurking footpad lies, like a dangerous adder, in our roads and streets; the horrid burglar, like an evil spirit, haunts our dwellings, 'making night hideous.' The farmer loses his sheep from the fold, the ox from his stall, and all sorts of people, their horses from their fields, and even from their stables." Again, "How shocking is it to consider, that in a trading country like this, where persons are obliged to travel at all hours, no man can stir out a mile from his house, without an apprehension of being robbed, and perhaps murdered! For, of late, we have had instances of the most savage barbarity exercised on the persons of his majesty's subjects, whose fate it has been to be met by robbers." Such are the complaints which this writer so pathetically urges, to strengthen his call for blood. True it is, he imputes this lamentable state of things, not to the severity of the penal code (which he contends is no greater than public security requires), but to the laxity of its execution. He would have had the sentence of death inflicted whenever it was passed; but while the law remains as it is, the feelings of society could not endure so tragical a scene Besides, some of the offences to which he alludes, especially when attended by personal. violence, have been almost always punished with death, and the commission of such, therefore, cannot have been encouraged by any improper lenity.

'That the punishment of death has not been efficacious, surely here is abundant proof. That it is not necessary, because other punishments have been found more effectual, the various instances already given fully show. If any further evidence were requisite, the following brief details would furnish it. Prior to 1807, stealing linen from bleaching-grounds was a capital offence, but after the punishment was mitigated, though other offences increased two, three, and four-fold. this diminished more than three fourths, there having been thirty-eight trials for it during the five years prior to the repeal, and only nine in the five years subsequent. This was the case in Lancashire, and it was the same in Ireland. Before the alteration of the law, out of sixty-two tried, fifty-eight or fifty-nine escaped; after the alteration, the trials diminished one half, and the convictions increased

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five-fold. From the evidence of Mr. Carr, the solicitor of excise, it appears, that before the forgery of stamps upon paper was made capital, almost every person prosecuted was convicted, but that, since the law had increased the punishment, almost all were ac-

'The offence of forging bank-notes furnishes another instance of the folly of attempting to repress crime by the mere force of severe punishments. For eight years before 1797, there was not a single execution for this offence; during the eight subsequent years there were one hundred and forty-six.

In the fourteen years preceding 1797 there were only three executions; in the fourteen years after there were two hundred and nine; in the twenty-one years before 1797, there were only six; in the twenty-one following years there were three hundred and thirteen. Again, between 1783 and 1797 there were only four prosecutions for forgery on the Bank. Between 1797 and 1820, there were one thousand five hundred and eighty-one.

'It may be thought that this great increase arose from the profuse issue of bank paper subsequent to the restriction-act, and no doubt, in some measure, it did. It must, however, have arisen, in a great degree, from the inefficiency of capital punishments; for though the issue of bank-notes would naturally have the effect of diminishing the circulation of coin, yet the offence of coining also increased very rapidly; though, of course, in a less degree. During the seven years before 1797, the number of convictions for coining was three hundred and seventyeight; during the seven years after, five hundred and eighty-four, being an increase of more than one third.'

We do not enter into the arguments in favour of capital punishments, though they appear to us to embrace all that can be said on that side of the question; humanity has, however, evidently the best of the discussion, and it must ultimately prevail; but however distant this period may be, the editors of the Philomathic Journal deserve the thanks of the whole civilized race, for placing a question of such deep importance in so clear a light before the public.

> MOORE'S LIFE OF SHERIDAN. (Continued from p. 662.)

Wr. have already noticed Sheridan's famous speech on the Begum charge; in his reply, he resorted to a singular finesse, which Mr Moore thus states :-

'The trial of Warren Hastings still "dragged its slow length along," and in the May of this year (1794) Mr. Sheridan was called upon for his reply on the Begum charge. It was usual, on these occasions, for the manager who spoke to be assisted by one of his brother managers, whose task it was to carry the bag that contained his papers, and to read out whatever minutes might be referred to in the course of the argument. . Mr. Michael Angelo Taylor was the person who undertook this office for Sheridan: but, on the morning of the speech, upon his asking for the bag that he was to carry, he was told by Sheridan that there was none-neither bag in the English language-written as long ago taken the administration of affairs into his

nor papers. They must manage, he said, as well as they could without them; and when the papers were called for, his friend must only put the best countenance he could upon it. As for himself, "he would abuse Ned Law—ridicule Plumer's long orations—make the court laugh—please the women, and, in short, with Taylor's aid, would get triumphantly through his task." His opening of the case was listened to with the profoundest attention; but when he came to contrast the evidence of the Commons with that adduced by Hastings, it was not long before the chancellor interrupted him, with a request that the printed minutes to which he referred should be read. Sheridan answered, that his friend Mr Taylor would read them; and Mr. Taylor affected to send for the bag, while the orator begged leave, in the mean time, to proceed. Again, however, his statements rendered a reference to the minutes necessary, and again he was interrupted by the chancellor, while an outcry after Mr. Sheridan's bag was raised in all directions. At first, the blame was laid on the solicitor's clerk—then a messenger was despatched to Mr. Sheridan's house. In the mean time, the orator was proceeding brilliantly and successfully in his argument; and on some further interruption and expostulation from the chancellor, raised his voice and said, in a dignified tone, "On the part of the Commons, and as a manager of this impeachment, I shall conduct my case as I think proper. I mean to be correct; and your lordships, having the printed minutes before you, will afterwards see whether I am right or wrong."

'During the bustle produced by the inquiries after the bag, Mr. Fox, alarmed at the inconvenience which he feared the want of it might occasion to Sheridan, ran up from the managers' room, and demanded cagerly the cause of this mistake from Mr. Taylor; who, hiding his mouth with his hand, whispered him (in a tone of which they alone, who have heard this gentleman relate the anecdote, can feel the full humour), "The

man has no bag."

'The whole of this characteristic contrivance was evidently intended by Sheridan to raise that sort of surprise at the readiness of his resources, which it was the favourite triumph of his vanity to create. I have it on the authority of Mr. William Smythe, that previously to the delivery of this speech, he passed two or three days alone at Wanstead, so occupied from morning till night in writing and reading of papers, as to complain in the evenings that he "had motes before his eyes." This mixture of real labour with apparent carelessness was, indeed, one of the most curious features of his life and charac-

Tickell, the friend of Sheridan, whom by his own genius he at once assisted and stimulated, wrote a humorous dedication to The Rivals, in a copy of that comedy in Mr. Moore's possession, together with the following amusing but severely satirical character of the author:-

'The Rivals, a comedy—one of the best

as the reign of George the Third. The author's name was Sheridan-he is mentioned by the historians of that age as a man of uncommon abilities, very little improved by cultivation. His confidence in the resources of his own genius and his aversion to any sort of labour were so great that he could not be prevailed upon to learn either to read or write. He was, for a short time, manager of one of the play-houses, and conceived the extraordinary and almost incredible project of composing a play extempore, which he was to recite in the green-room to the actors, who were immediately to come on the stage and perform it. The players refusing to undertake their parts at so short a notice, and with so little preparation, he threw up the management with disgust.

'He was a member of the last Parliaments that were summoned in England, and signalized himself on many occasions by his wit and e'oquence, though he seldom came to the house till the debate was nearly concluded, and never spoke, unless he was drunk. He lived on a footing of great intimacy with the famous Fox, who is said to have concerted with him the audacious attempt which he made, about the year 1783, to seize the whole property of the East India Company, amounting at that time to above £12,000,000 sterling, and then to declare himself lord protector of the realm, by the title of Carlo Khan. This desperate scheme actually received the consent of the lower house of parliament, the majority of whom were bribed by Fox, or intimidated by his and Sheridan's threats and violence; and it is generally believed that the revolution would have taken place, if the lords of the king's bedchamber had not in a body surrounded the throne and shown the most determined resolution not to abandon their posts but with their lives. The usurpation being defeated, parliament was dissolved and loaded with infamy. Sheridan was one of the few members of it who were re-elected: -the burgesses of Stafford, whom he had kept in a constant state of intoxication for near three weeks, chose him again to represent them, which he was well qualified to do.

'Fox's Whig party being very much reduced, or rather almost annihilated, he and the rest of the conspirators remained quiet for some time; till, in the year 1788, the French, in conjunction with Tippoo Sultan, having suddenly seized and divided between themselves the whole of the British possessions in India, the East India Company broke, and a national bankruptcy was apprehended. During this confusion Fox and his partisans assembled in large bodies, and made a violent attack in parliament on Pitt, the king's first minister: Sheridan supported and seconded him. Parliament seemed disposed to inquire into the cause of the calamity: the nation was almost in a state of actual rebellion, and it is impossible for us, at the distance of three hundred years, to form any judgment of what dreadful consequences might have followed, if the king, by the advice of the lords of the bedchamber, had not dissolved the Parliament, and

services, adequate caused h presented where he published which are 'To re tion of p connectio others of desperate graced a of every s as even way, with equalled they esca tisfied wit justice o masque o a circums beries he sarcasm c he had ro laws of th at Drury to the ast the scand had long of the pre good opp mers to b house to bitions to Lane pla into a bar tinued to rested, a suffered t his guard Ireland in Fox had his arriva head of a command siege of] to be the tarring as lord lieute dition to The perso enterprise tenant's a probably Sheridan, a strong 1 teers, had door of 3 given the flew to a

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own hands, and those of a few confidential pering, jumping, dancing, and making all had acquired a handsome fortune in the Jamaica trade, and passed universally for a man of unblemished integrity. His majesty having now no farther occasion for Pitt, and being desirous of rewarding him for his past services, and, at the same time, finding an adequate employment for his great talents, caused him to enter into holy orders, and presented him with the deanery of Windsor, where he became an excellent preacher, and which are now lost.

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'To return to Sheridan :- on the abrogation of parliaments, he entered into a closer connection than ever with Fox and a few others of lesser note, forming together as desperate and profligate a gang as ever disgraced a civilized country. They were guilty of every species of enormity, and went so far as even to commit robberies on the highway, with a degree of audacity that could be equalled only by the ingenuity with which they escaped conviction. Sheridan, not satisfied with eluding, determined to mock the justice of his country, and composed a masque called "The Foresters," containing a circumstantial account of some of the robberies he had committed, and a good deal of sarcasm on the pusillanimity of those whom he had robbed, and the inefficacy of the penal laws of the kingdom. This piece was acted at Drury Lane Theatre with great applause, to the astonishment of all sober persons, and the scandal of the nation. His majesty, who had long wished to curb the licentiousness of the press and the theatres, thought this a good opportunity. He ordered the performers to be enlisted into the army, the playhouse to be shut up, and all theatrical exhibitions to be forbid on pain of death. Drury Lane play-house was soon after converted into a barrack for soldiers, which it has continued to be ever since. Sheridan was arrested, and, it was imagined, would have suffered the rack, if he had not escaped from his guard by a stratagem, and gone over to Ireland in a ba'loon, with which his friend Fox had furnished him. Immediately on his arrival in Ireland, he put himself at the head of a party of the most violent reformers, commanded a regiment of volunteers at the slege of Dublin in 1791, and was supposed to be the person who planned the scheme for tarring and feathering Mr. Jenkinson, the lord lieutenant, and forcing him in that condition to sign the capitulation of the castle. The persons who were to execute this strange enterprise had actually got into the lord lieutenant's apartments at midnight, and would probably have succeeded in their project, if Sheridan, who was intoxicated with whiskey, a strong liquor much in vogue with the volunteers, had not attempted to force open the door of Mrs. ----'s bedchamber, and so given the alarm to the garrison, who instantly flew to arms, seized Sheridan and every one of his party, and confined them in the castledungeon. Sheridan was ordered for execution the next day, but had no sooner got his legs and arms at liberty, than he began ca-

servants, at the head of whom he was pleased sorts of antics, to the utter amazement of to place one Mr. Atkinson, a merchant, who the spectators. When the chaplain endeavoured, by serious advice and admonition, to bring him to a proper sense of his dreadful situation, he grinned, made faces at him, tried to tickle him, and played a thousand other pranks with such astonishing drollery, that the gravest countenances became cheerful, and the saddest hearts glad. The soldiers who attended at the gallows were so delighted with his merriment, which they deemed magnanimity, that the sheriffs published several volumes of sermons, all of began to apprehend a rescue, and ordered the hangman instantly to do his duty. He went off in a loud horse laugh, and cast a look towards the castle, accompanied with a gesture expressive of no great respect.

'Thus ended the life of this singular and unhappy man—a melancholy instance of the calamities that attend the misapplication of great and splendid ability. He was married to a very beautiful and amiable woman, for whom he is said to have entertained an unalterable affection. He had one son, a boy of the most promising hopes, whom he would never suffer to be instructed in the first rudiments of literature. He amused himself, however, with teaching the boy to draw portraits with his toes, in which he soon became so astonishing a proficient that he seldom failed to take a most exact likeness of every person who sat to him.

'There are a few more plays by the same author, all of them excellent.

' For further information concerning this strange man, vide "Macpherson's Moral History," Art. " Drunkenness."

Though Sheridan was a genius of the first order, yet he neither spoke without much preparation, nor sent any production to the press until he had polished every sentence. Mr. Moore says:—

'He never made a speech of any moment, of which the sketch, more or less detailed, has not been found among his papers—with the showier passages generally written two or three times over (often without any material change in their form) upon small detached pieces of paper, or on cards. To such minutiæ of effect did he attend, that I have found, in more than one instance, a memorandum made of the precise place in which the words "Good God, Mr. Speaker," were to be introduced. These preparatory sketches are continued down to his latest displays; and it is observable that when, from the increased derangement of his affairs, he had no longer leisure or collectedness enough to prepare, he ceased to speak.

'The only time he could have found for this pre-arrangement of his thoughts (of which few, from the apparent idleness of his life, suspected him) must have been during the many hours of the day that he remained in bed, *-when, frequently, while the world gave him credit for being asleep, he was employed in laying the frame-work of his wit and eloquence for the evening.

'That this habit of premeditation was not altogether owing to a want of quickness ap-

* Sheridan used to shut himself up in his sitting-room, and prohibit all visitors.—ED.

pears from the power and liveliness of his replies in parliament, and the vivacity of some of his retorts in conversation.

'Some mention having been made in his presence of a tax upon mile-stones, Sheridan said, "Such a tax would be unconstitutional -as they were a race that could not meet to remonstrate."

As an instance of his humour, I have been told that, in some country-house where he was on a visit, an elderly maiden lady having set her heart on being his companion in a walk, he excused himself at first on account of the badness of the weather. Soon afterwards, however, the lady intercepted him in an attempt to escape without her:-"Well," she said, "it has cleared up, I see." -"Why, yes," he answered, "it has cleared up enough for one, but not for two."

'The labour, indeed, which he found necessary for his public displays was, in a great degree, the combined effect of his ignorance and his taste;—the one rendering him fearful of committing himself on the matter of his task, and the other making him fastidious and hesitating as to the munner of it. I cannot help thinking, however, that there must have been, also, a degree of natural slowness in the first movements of his mind upon any topic; and that, like those animals which remain gazing upon their prey before they seize it, he found it necessary to look intently at his subject for some time, before he was able to make the last, quick spring that mastered it.

'Among the proofs of this dependence of his fancy upon time and thought for its development, may be mentioned his familiar letters, as far as their fewness enables us to judge. Had his wit been a "fruit, that would fall without shaking," we should, in these communications at least, find some casual windfalls of it. But, from the want of sufficient time to search and cull, he seems to have given up, in despair, all thoughts of being lively in his letters; and, accordingly, as the reader must have observed in the specimens that have been given, his compositions in this way are not only unenlivened by any excursions beyond the bounds of mere matter of fact, but, from the habit or necessity of taking a certain portion of time for correction, are singularly confused, disjoined, and inelegant in their style.

'It is certain that even his bon-mots in society were not always to be set down to the credit of the occasion; but that, frequently, like skilful priests, he prepared the miracle of the moment before-hand. Nothing, indeed, could be more remarkable than the patience and tact, with which he would wait through a whole evening for the exact moment, when the shaft, which he had ready feathered, might be let fly with effect. There was no effort, either obvious or disguised, to lead to the subject—no "question detached (as he himself expresses it) to draw you into the ambuscade of his ready-made joke"-and, when the lucky moment did arrive, the natural and accidental manner, in which he would let this treasured sentence fall from his lips, considerably added to the astonishment and the charm. So bright a thing, produced so easily, seemed like the delivery of Wieland's Armanda in a dream; —and his own apparent unconsciousness of the value of what he said, might have deceived dull people into the idea that there

was really nothing in it.

'The consequence of this practice of waiting for the moment of effect was, (as all who have been much in his society, must have observed,) that he would remain inert in conversation, and even taciturn, for hours, and then suddenly come out with some brilliant sally, which threw a light over the whole evening, and was carried away in the memories of all present. Nor must it be supposed that in the intervals, either before or after these flashes, he ceased to be agreeable; on the contrary, he had a grace and good nature in his manner, which gave a charm to even his most ordinary sayings, -and there was, besides, that ever-speaking lustre in his eye, which made it impossible, even when he was silent, to forget who he was.

'A curious instance of the care with which he treasured up the felicities of his wit appears in the use he made of one of those epigrammatic passages, which the reader may remember among the memorandums for his comedy of Affectation, and which, in its first form, ran thus:-" He certainly has a great deal of fancy, and a very good memory; but, with a perverse ingenuity, he employs these qualities as no other person does—for he employs his fancy in his narratives, and keeps his recollection for his wit:—when he makes his jokes, you applaud the accuracy of his memory, and 'tis only when he states his facts that you admire the flights of his imagination." After many efforts to express this thought more concisely, and to reduce the language of it to that condensed and elastic state, in which alone it gives force to the projectiles of wit, he kept the passage by him patiently some years,—till he at length found an opportunity of turning it to account, in a reply, I believe, to Mr. Dundas, in the House of Commons, when, with the most extemporaneous air, he brought it forth, in the following compact and pointed form :- "The right honourable gentleman is indebted to his memory for his jests, and to his imagination for his facts."

(To be concluded in our next.)

The Natural History of the Bible; or, a Description of all the Quadrupeds, Birds, Fishes, Plants, Flowers, &c. mentioned in the Sacred Scriptures. By Thaddeus Mason Harris, D. D. A new edition, with plates. 12mo. London, 1825. Whittaker.

In noticing a former edition of this work, twelve months ago, we described it as 'particularly valuable to the theologian, the naturalist, and the general reader;' and a subsequent perusal gives us no reason to alter our opinion. The present edition displays one new and advantageous feature in the engravings of the principal subjects of natural history described in the volume, which is an excellent key to the sacred writings.

BRUCE'S ORIENTAL MANUSCRIPTS.

The extraordinary narratives of Bruce induced the public to think he had drawn largely on the supposed privilege of a traveller, and that he taxed credulity too heavily; so much, indeed, did this belief prevail, that when the traveller was asked what musical instruments were used in Abyssinia, Bruce hesitatingly said, 'I think I saw one lyre there.' George Selwyn, who was present, whispered his next man, 'Yes; and there is one less (liar) since he left the country.' Subsequent travellers have confirmed so many of the details given by Bruce, that there is no reason to doubt the general correctness of his narrative.

Bruce was indeed an extraordinary man, and the public has not yet fully appreciated the value of his discoveries. Among other things, he brought home with him a magnificent collection of manuscripts, which he formed at considerable expense, and with laborious research, in Egypt, Abyssinia, Arabia, and other countries. This collection consists of about one hundred volumes, of which twenty-four are Ethiopic, one Coptic, one Persian, and the remainder Arabic.

'Among the Æthiopic are five large volumes, comprehending the Old Testament (except the Psalms, which have been published by the learned Ludolf in 1701): there is also the New Testament in Æthiopic (two large volumes), and the celebrated "Chronicle of Axum," which was presented to Mr. Bruce by Ras Michael, governor of Tigre: it contains the traditional history of Abyssinia, and many curious particulars relating to the city and church of Axum, &c. Another Æthiopic manuscript is the history of Abyssinia, in five large volumes, a work equally rare as important. Among the Arabic MSS. is a complete history of the conquest, topography, literature, and the remarkable personages of Andalus or Spain, in the time of the Arabs, by Sheikh Ahmed al Monkeri, a native of Andalusia, in three large volumes; a copy of the celebrated Biographical Dictionary of Ebn Khalican, in two volumes; Al Masaoudi's excellent historical, geographical, and philosophical work, entitled, the Meadows of Gold, in two large volumes; the Star in the Garden, a MS. treating of the geography of Egypt and of the Nile; Assiouti's Topography, Antiquities, and Natural History of Egypt; also Macrizi's Topographical History of Egypt, in three volumes; with many other very rare and valuable works, illustrating the history, geography, and natural productions of Egypt, Syria, Arabia, &c. besides some curious tracts in medicine, the romance of Antar, poetical collections, &c. But we must particularly notice the Coptic MS. found among the ruins of Thebes, in the ancient residence of some Egyptian monks; it is written on papyrus, in a small folio size, and comprises twenty-six leaves; the characters all capitals, of the uncial kind; it may be ascribed to the second, or the early part of the third, century. This most precious MS. has been described by Dr. Woide, in the introduction to the Saludic New Testament (139, 230). See also the third plate of that work. The

entire collection of Mr. Bruce's MSS. at present belongs to the daughter in-law of that distinguished traveller, and is deposited in Chelsea Hospital, under the care of Colonel Spicer. Of the value attached to this collection some notion may be formed, when we acquaint the reader, that for two or three articles among the Æthiopic MSS. 1000 guineas have been offered and refused.'

CONSPIRACY OF THE JESUITS AGAINST QUEBN ELIZABETH AND JAMES 1. (Concluded from p. 682.)

THE conspirators were highly rejoiced at the success of their undertaking, of the accomplishment of which they entertained not the most distant doubt. Nothing now remained for them to do but to consult about the measures that were to be taken after the blowing up the mine; they resolved unanimously to assassinate the Prince of Wales, who could not be present at the meeting of Parliament, and agreed at the same time that no foreign power ought to be informed of their design until it should be accomplished. because the importance of such undertakings was commonly estimated only after their success. They expected to receive the greatest support from the province of Flanders, and the Jesuit Garnet wrote for that purpose to Father Baudicein, who resided in the Netherlands. He requested him in his letter to take care that, at the time when the parliament was to be blown up, some troops should march towards the coast, in order to be ready to embark for England at a moment's warning.

'This point being settled, the conspirators resolved to separate, in order to avoid all suspicion. Some of them went to their country seats, and others left England to await in foreign countries the final issue of their undertaking. Fawkes went to Flanders, whence he returned in August. Catesby remained in England, and won over to his party Francis Tresham and Everard Dighby who promised to support the conspirators with a considerable sum of money.

with a considerable sum of money. 'The catastrophe of that dreadful revolution, which they aimed to bring about, drew nearer and nearer, and the opening of parliament was only ten days distant, when one of the conspirators took it in his head to save a friend from the impending general destruction. Baron Montragle received an anonymous letter, by which he was warned not to go to the house of parliament, as God had decreed to punish the wickedness of the times by the assistance of men. The writer conjured him not to slight the well-meant advice of a friend, for the parliament would receive a dreadful blow without seeing the hand that was to strike it. Montragle laid this note before the secretary of state, who communicated it to the king. The mysterious tenor of that singular paper puzzled the king and his minister for a considerable time, and its author was supposed to be a madman. Fortunately it occurred to the mind of the king, that this dreadful blow might be effected by a mine; the house of parliament therefore was instantly examined, and a great quantity of dry wood and charcoal was found in the cellar of covered i suspicion, the follow sioners, \ pose, can house, Fa door in a commission the wood of gunpo being sea matches ' fessed the could pos cellar, he der, and missioner 'The pidly all e

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the house which Perey had hired. This circumstance, added to the confused and omipous looks of Guido Fawkes, who was discovered in the house, increased the king's suspicion, and a strict search was commenced the following night. When the commissioners, who were appointed for that purpose, came with a strong guard to Percy's house, Fawkes was perceived standing at the door in a travelling dress; he was seized; the commissioners then went into the cellar, and the wood being removed, thirty-six barrels of gunpowder were discovered. Fawkes being searched, a tinder-box and three matches were found in his pockets: he confessed the whole plot, declaring, that if he could possibly have got before them into the

cellar, he would have set fire to the gunpow-

der, and buried himself along with the com-

missioners under the ruins of the bouse.

'The rumour of this discovery spread rapidly all over the country. The conspirators fled to Holbech, in the county of Suffolk, under the protection of Stephen Littleton Richard Walsh, viscount of Worcester, pursued them with an armed force, and cut off all means of effecting their escape: they prepared to defend themselves in a most desperate manner; but while they were drying their powder at the fire, a spark flew into it, by which accident most of them were so dreadfully burned in the face, hands, and whole body, that but few of them were able to handle their arms. Catesby and Percy, the most daring of all, retreated into the castle, where they defended themselves furiously till they expired. Winter was dangerously wounded when he was apprehended; the two Wrights were killed on the spot, and Graunt, Dighby, Rookwood, Bates, and soon afterwards Tresham, Winter, and Littleton, were conducted to London in fetters.

The conspirators made a voluntary conlession of the whole plot without being put to the torture, and it is remarkable that they accused not one priest or monk of having been concerned with them. Thuanus and Mezerai maintain, that the oath by which they were bound had been of such a nature that they could not have informed against an ecclesiastic without endangering their eternal salvation. Francis Tresham, indeed, named his wife, he wrote to the Earl of Salisbury, recanting the information which he had given against the Jesuit, and declaring that Garnet was entirely innocent. He added, that he had not seen this Jesuit in the course of sixteen years. This, however, was an infamous falsehood; for Garnet confessed afterwards that he had frequently conversed with Tresham during the last six months. All the traitors were found guilty, and sentenced to death. 'Certain letters, and the confessions of the prisoners and of the executed criminals, as well as the whole proceedings in general, threw a strong suspicion on the three Jesuits, Gerrard, Henry Garnet, and Oswald. It was a matter of great importance to government, for the sake of public security, to set on foot the most rigorous inquiries against wish, and conducted the two Jesuits to a

all those that were anyways concerned in a crime of such a horrid nature. A royal proclamation was therefore published, January 18, 1506, whereby a great reward was promised to those that should be able to deliver these three Jesuits into the hands of justice, and it was prohibited, on pain of severe punishment, to harbour, to assist, or to conceal

'Garnet and Oldekorn fled with their servant to the castle of Lord Abingdon, where they hid themselves in the chimney, and for some time lived entirely upon broth, which was conveyed to their hiding place by means of a tube. All servants being, however, at length removed out of the house, and the concealed conspirators watched with the greatest diligence, the two Jesuits and their servant were compelled by hunger to surrender to the officers of justice. They were confined in a dungeon at London, where the servant ripped up his own belly with a knife, for fear of being forced by the pains of the torture to make a confession, and died before he could be examined.

'The king was convinced that Garnet had some knowledge of the conspiracy. knew that he had lived in habits of intimacy with Catesby, the head of the conspirators; yet he did not wish him to be put to the rack, being desirous that he should make a free and unequivocal confession. He was, therefore, treated with great lenity, and enjoyed some kind of liberty, it being the king's intention that he should be caught by artifice, as it was impossible to get at him by fair means. A favourite of the king was prevailed upon to ingratiate himself with Garnet, by complaining to him of the despotism of the British government, and the lamentable situation of the Roman Catholics in England. This artifice succeeded. The Jesuit reposed the greatest confidence in a man that defended the cause of religion with so much zeal. gave him letters, which he was to deliver to a lady of rank, who also was imprisoned, and formerly intimately connected with the Jesuits. Garnet mentioned in this letter, in a few words, what he had confessed, as well as those points on which he had not been interrogated. He instructed her, at the same time, what reply she should make to different the Jesuit Garnet as an accomplice; but a points, and to pass over in silence several few moments previous to his execution, being circumstances of consequence. Besides this urged by the most pressing solicitations of letter, he also gave to his supposed friend another to a certain priest of the name of Rookwood, who was likewise imprisoned. The contents of this letter seemed to be entirely indifferent; however, the artful Jesuit had wrote with lemon juice on the space between the lines other secret matters, which were discerned when the paper was held against the fire. Amongst other subjects, he wrote to Rookwood, that he was entirely easy about the late affair (the gunpowder plot), as he was certain that no convincing proofs could be alleged against him.

'These two letters were laid before the privy council. Garnet was gradually indulged with more liberty. He showed a great desire to have a conversation with Oldekorn. The guard complied with his

place where they could converse without fear and reserve, retiring to a distance, which rendered it impossible for them to overhear the words of the prisoners. However, two creditable witnesses were concealed in a secret place, where they heard what could not reach the ears of the guard. Garnet and Oldekorn unbosomed themselves to one another without reserve, communicating to each other the points on which they had been examined, and deliberating on the lies and artful evasions of which they intended to make use, in order to impose upon their judges. The two concealed witnesses listened attentively to this conversation, wrote it carefully down, and carried the paper to the secretary of state.

'The two prisoners now were separately examined the subsequent day, about the matters on which they had consulted. Garnet believed that the points on which the judges examined him were founded only on supposition, and denied everything with the most barefaced impudence, pledging his sacerdotal dignity for the truth of his depositions. However, when Oldekorn was convicted, Garnet also was compelled to confess his guilt. He apologised to his judges for not having confessed sooner the undisguised truth, and endeavoured to palliate his prior solemn declaration by ambiguous and vague explications. He added, he had denied the truth with so much confidence, because he had been convinced that no person besides Greenwell could convict him of having been concerned in the late conspiracy. He now confessed that the latter, about five months ago, had disclosed to him the whole plan of the conspiracy, and informed Catesby in general terms of a great undertaking devised by the Roman Catholics in favour of religion.

'Having been examined twenty times. from the 13th of February to the 26th of March, he was carried before the bar of the court of justice. Nottingham and Salisbury interrogated him once more about the different points of accusation that were contained in the acts of the antecedent examinations. Garnet endeavoured to make it appear that all that he had known of the conspiracy had consisted, at first, only in some vague and unsubstantiated rumours which had been current among the multitude. Greenwell had been the first that had discovered to him, in the confessional, the particulars of the whole plan, and he had not been at liberty to divulge what had been intrusted to him under the seal of confession; he had, however, earnestly exhorted the said Greenwell to desist from his design. He replied, in an ambiguous manner, to all the questions which the lords put to him, had recourse to the most crooked and artful shifts, when he was charged with inconsistency and contradiction. and persisted in denying, with the greatest impudence, the chief object of his crime, till his own writings were produced, whereby it was proved in the most unexceptionable manner, that,-

'1. Greenwell had informed him of the conspiracy, not as of a sin, but as of a matter that was already known to him, and on which he desired to have his advice.

'2. That Catesby and Greenwell had applied to him, in order to be confirmed in their design by his approbation.

'3. That Greenwell had had a long conversation with him in the county of Essex, respecting the gunpowder plot; and,

4. That he had replied to Greenwell's question, "Who was to be the protector and regent of the kingdom, after the conspiracy should be accomplished?" "That nothing could be decided on that matter, until it was known how far the design had succeeded."

'Garnet now saw himself convicted, and the court sentenced him to be dragged to the place of execution, hanged, and quartered. This sentence was executed, May 3, 1606. The terrors of death began to torment him just in the last moments of his life, and he made a very unconnected and confused dying speech to the people, confessing that his punishment was just, execrating the conspiracy, and adding, he would certainly not have betrayed his dear brother Greenwell, if he had not known that he was in safety. Oldekorn shared the same fate after Garnet's execution; but Gerrard and Greenwell saved themselves by flight."

NIL-ADMIRARI,

NO. XII.

Or the little we do learn at school the greater part has to be unlearnt again in after life. The maxims taught to boys are not adapted to the policy of the world, being of about nearly the same utility in practice, as painting fire-screens and card-racks, and learning a few phrases of bad French are to the other sex. One of our writing copies used to be "Content is better than riches," a very convenient aphorism for a pædagogue to teach his pupils, yet utterly inapplicable, as we all well know, to the prudence requisite in the great school of the world.

Content is a very good subject for poets, but it never yet made an apprentice a lord mayor, or a curate a lord bishop. We are, therefore, somewhat of the opinion of an ingenious contemporary, who says, 'We never knew any good come of contentment. As long as men are contented with their condition they will never seek to improve it. Discontent is the parent of amelioration.'—Vide

Morning Chronicle, October 19th.

This is very true: as long as we remain contented with defects and abuses we shall never reform. The Spaniards are content with their Inquisition and their intolerance, the Portuguese with their dirt and their ignorance, and both are content to remain where the rest of Europe were centuries ago. We good folks of England, indeed, possess somewhat more of the opposite virtue, and improve accordingly. Our forefathers were contented with dark, crooked lanes instead of streets; we, their wiser and more virtuous posterity, wonder at their bad taste and their wretched patience; and our descendants in their turn will admire that we should so long have been contented with the dark intricacies of the law, and should have preferred quibbling and jargon to common sense; that we should have been contented with Chancery suits and game laws, the soi-disant pro-

tection of watchmen, and the soi-disant wisdom of unpaid magistrates; with the insolence of actors and the prodigious fuss made about all the doings of those kind of people; with sporting parsons and betting bishops*. Discontent is the parent of excellence: this precept deserves to be inscribed in letters of gold, and to be written in all the copy-books throughout the kingdom; so shall we in due time become a really great and illustrious people, superior to all the rest of the earth. Our fathers were contented—such was their patient simplicity - with Shakspeare; we more wisely improve upon the dulnesswith all due reverence be it spoken, of that dramatist, eminent as he was, considering the period at which he wrote; and turn his plays into operas, transform them into melodrames, convert them into ballets. Milton was contented—dull, unimaginative man ! with writing one epic; our present poet laureate has already produced fifty. Formerly, a man was well contented to be the author of one book; now-a-days, he aspires to be the manufacturer of a hundred. 'A single gaol in Alfred's golden days,' and a single newspaper at a later period, sufficed for the whole kingdom; now gaols and newspapers are increased a thousand fold. There was, too, a time when a plain honest citizen was content to be Mr. John —, now he must be styled John —, Esquire; his wife, in her turn, becomes a fine lady, and neglects her domestic economy to study political economy, most heroically preferring the interests of nations to those of her own family, while his daughters thump pianos, take lessons in gymnastics, and study their ologies and ographics. Such is the march of civilization: day by day we abondon a prejudice, acquire a new principle of conduct; whereas, had we always been contented, we might be at this very moment be in precisely the same condition as during the heptarchy. Discontent is an excellent thing both for nations and individuals; it tends to keep them ever active and enterprising. It leads the former to foreign conquests and to the extension of empire. Had Alexander been contented with Macedon, he would never have overrun the world, and penetrated even to India. Content leads no farther than happiness; it is discontent that conducts to glory. It is this that spurs men on to that noble ambition, those heroic butcherings, and wars, and massacres, and slaughters, which, by the universal consent of mankind in all ages, have been termed glory. It is this, too, that keeps the moral world from stagnation. We must confess, however, that it is an ugly word, so at least have we been hitherto taught to consider it;

· A highly distinguished prelate,' says a morning paper (Oct. 24th), 'who regularly attended the races, at the last Newmarket meeting but one, is reported to have been a great winner upon the principal race, on the event of which he betted contrary to the opinion of his noble relative, &c.' It really does seem rather odd that a right reverend should be so superior to the vulgar prejudices of decorum, but still it shall not draw from us any expression of surprise, defegatory to our philosophy of nil-ad-

and it is therefore very convenient to bestow on it some other appellation better suited to our present prejudices. Hence, it is designated ambition - prudence - patriotism reform - philosophy - just as convenience requires, or the occasion demands. To be contented is a most dangerous thing, and tends most effectually to prevent our attempting or achieving anything important, or seeking any improvement. How many people do we know who are so contented with their ignorance, their prejudices, and their follies, that were they to attain the years of Mathusalem, they would retain them all! To be contented even with natural gifts argues a want of sufficient desire for excellence, and would prove injurious to those very ingenious artists who have contrived so many notable methods of atoning for the niggardliness of nature-to wit, dentists, dealers in cosmetics, and fabricators of rouge and false ringlets. Were the female sex contented with the bungling work of Dame Nature, what would become of all these and many other equally important and meritorious people? Let not our doctrine, however, be overstrained; there certainly are some occasions in which content is rather a virtue than otherwise, and it is one that we always deem peculiarly becoming to our own readers.

GOD AND MAN.

GOD! who is the greatest of spirits, is the most tolerant. Man! who is the first of animals, is the most oppressive—yet he calls himself the shadow of the Almighty. Man becomes angry, and punishes for every little affront; God bears with all the insults and vices of man, who daily and hourly is employed in endeavouring to offend him. Man pretends to admire the benign nature of the Deity; yet when he sees another imitate His clemency and good nature, he calls him a fool—so much for man's consistency. 5 R. I.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

SHAKSPEARE'S CLIFF.

HIGH on thy brow I sit! and think of him, Whose never-fading name thou bear'st sub-

That name no lapse of time can render dim, For that great name shall triumph over time! Each year steals something from thy fearful

height; Another age may ask where thou hast stood, Worn and destroy'd by tempests in their flight, Which dash against thy sides the briny flood. E'en then, immortal Shakspeare's tragic page, Shall give to fancy's eye thy giant form, Lifting its front against the ocean's rage,

And braving all the horrors of the storm: E'en then, though all thy atoms shall be fled, Although thy place may be a sandy shore, Though all who ever saw thee shall be dead, Genius shall find thee then in Shakspeare's J. M. L. lore!

THE DRAMA,

AND PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

A CORRESPONDENT complains that our notices of the Drama are more brief than formerly; this we acknowledge to be the case, and for this plain reason, that we never knew our national theatres less worthy of notice than at the present time; the genius of dullness appea and Coven ference to indeed is lect the ear cheatres ex Stale play ceeded eac and althou particularl the perfori racters uns DRURY vilties pro comedy of one: that part of th lieve, few seen it per medy are taken with plays, it r The story by a lady lover, rep to woo an duction fr the portm male attir and is re however, brother, a The real and is trea that has denouemen is married Philip, w comedy h acting of did not st was mucl executed Dowton (the father vison play woman v peculiar comedy, t not either successful with that er's Daug sublime a

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ness appears to preside both at Drury Lane and Covent Garden Theatres, and an indifference to either is the result; so much indeed is this the case, that we never recollect the early part of the season at the winter theatres excite so little interest as at present. Sale plays and crude performers have succeeded each other in monotonous regularity, and although the company at both houses, particularly Drury Lane, is respectable, yet the performers have been often put into characters unsuited to their talents.

DRURY LANE TREATRE .- Among the nowities produced at this house, Cibber's dull comedy of She Would and She Would not is one: that the play was new to the greatest part of the audience we can readily believe, few having even read it, and still fewer seen it performed; the incidents of the comedy are few, and had the same liberty been taken with it that has been with much better plays, it might have made a tolerable farce. The story turns on a sort of belle's stratagem, by a lady Hypolita, who, having refused a lover, repents, and finding him on the way to woo another, Rosara, with letters of introduction from his father, gets possession of the portmanteau containing them, assumes male attire, and the office of lover to boot, and is received by the young lady. She, however, is in love with Octavio, Hypolita's brother, and favours this lady's disguise. The real Simon Pure, Don Philip, arrives, and is treated as an impostor, until the fraud that has been practised is discovered—the denouement may be guessed, the young lady is married to Octavio, and Hypolita to Don Philip, whom she had thus teazed. The comedy has no moral, and even the excellent acting of Miss Kelly, in the part of Hypolita, did not strip it of its repulsive character; she was much applauded in a song, which she executed with fine feeling and taste too. Dowton displayed much genuine humour as the father of Rosara. Harley and Mrs. Davison played an intriguing valet and waitingwoman with great spirit; there was nothing peculiar in the other characters, and the comedy, though occasionally applauded, cannot either be considered as a happy or a successful revival; far different is the case with that excellent melo-drama, the Innkeeper's Daughter, in which Miss Kelly attains the sublime and beautiful of the histrionic art.

COVENT GABDEN THEATRE.—A new debutant for the honours of the buskin made his appearance at this house, in the character of Othello in Shakspeare's tragedy of that name. His real or playing name is Fitzharris, and though not the worst representative of the noble Moor we have seen, was a very inefficient one; his conception of the character was not bad, and he declaimed correctly enough, but he was very unequal to the delineation of that extreme affection and that whirlwind of passion-those alternations of love, jealousy, and revenge, which actuate the breast of the generous but ill-used Othello. Mr. Warde played Iago tolerably. Cooper's Cassio was not good; no person should take the part out of Charles Kemble's hands, he plays it so admirably. Mrs. Slo-

we cannot praise, and have too much gallantry to censure.

As the home productions of the season, have not thriven well, some exotics are about to be imported, including Mazurier, the celebrated Polichinello, who is to make his appearance at this theatre in a few days. A new comedy from the pen of Mr. Hyde, the author of the tragedy of Alphonzus, is in rehearsal. Green-room report speaks very favourably of it.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.—Mr. James Vining (a brother of the Mr. Vining who has grown into celebrity at this house) made his first appearance as Octavian, on Saturday evening, in The Mountaineers; and has since played Rolla, in Pizarro. This gentleman's perceptions and general delineation of his characters are very creditable to his talents; his movements and manners are generally graceful, and if any points peculiarly excellent cannot be traced in his performance, he is as free from any particular blemish; his voice, neither remarkable for harmony nor strength, is too weak to enable him to soar in declamation, yet his articulation is clear and deliberate, and we think he is likely to become a very useful member of this little theatre.

On Saturday evening also, a new comic drama, The Epaulette, was produced. The story is not new, but a novelty was presented in the representation, by ladies, of a number of pages in male uniform, giving the curious in female legs a fair opportunity of deciding upon these ladies' pretensions to just symmetry. It is a light, pretty, little piece, and was well received. Much as we in general admire Madame Vestris, our judgment takes offence, when her badinage, as it too often does, makes her neglect the pathos of the scene. The characters were very well filled, and the whole was got up in a respectable

THE ITALIAN OPERA, we understand, will open about the middle of December. The corps de ballet is chiefly engaged, and is under the direction of M. D'Egville, who is at present in France, completing his arrangements.

LITERATURE AND SCIENCE.

CAPTAIN PARRY'S LAST VOYAGE.

THE failure of Captain Parry's last voyage, though owing to an accident which might have occurred in a sea less difficult to navigate than the Arctic Ocean, has almost put the public out of love with these exploratory expeditions, and the expense, and risk of life are mentioned as reasons for abandoning them. It is, however, to be recollected that although four successive voyages have all failed to make the North West Passage, yet they have done much towards proving its existence; they have demonstrated the possibility of the passage, though its practicability may be a matter of doubt. But if the great object of these voyages has not been attained, yet much has been done in determining the geography of the Arctic regions. We were particularly struck with this, in comparing Cary's map of 1811 with that published by Smith man's Desdemona and Mrs. Faucit's Emilia last year. In the former, we were told that

all beyond Sanderson's Hope, in Baffin's Bay, was doubtful. The first voyage, that of Captain Ross, however, removed this doubt, for Baffin's Bay was explored, and the correctness of the old navigator fully established. In the second voyage, we find Capt. Parry passing through Baffin's Bay into Lancaster Sound, and venturing on a new region, actually wintering in 1119 west longitude, and 74° 44 north latitude, discovering straits, inlets, and islands; in fact, an entire new region, to which he gave the name of North Georgia—a region extending from about 80 to 113° of west longitude; the surveys, too, that were made of the coasts, and the soundings that were taken, have completed the hydrography of these hitherto unexplored seas. It would be idle, then, to decry arctic expeditions, or to say that they are useless; besides, as the spirit of discovery is abroad, we may rest assured that, if we do not pursue the subject, other nations, profiting by all we have done, will take it up, and perhaps reap that reward which we relinquish.

The last voyage has, perhaps, been less productive of discovery than any of the preceding ones, but had it not been for the loss of the Fury, it gave promise of great success, for, at the time the Hecla was compelled to return, an open sea was observed to the south and the west. That it was prudent, nay, indispensably necessary, that Capt. Parry should return, there can be no doubt, and the court-martial held on Capt. Hoppner, on Monday, when he was most honorably acquitted, proved that everything that skill, prudence, and foresight, could accomplish, was done.

The leading features of the voyage we have already given, but we are enabled, from an authentic source, to give a more connected narrative. We have already stated that the Fury was struck on the 1st of August; she was, at the time, coasting Prince Regent's Inlet, and as the vessel was obliged to keep in shore, that being the only current, the rest being one mass of ice, they kept heaving the lead all the time, she, however, struck on a hummock of ice in six feet water; as the ice wore away, she sank lower, and was driven further in shore; at the time she struck, she was making about four inches an hour; such was the force with which the Fury was struck, that the sternpost was torn off, as well as part of the cutwater, and the main keel was broken. Four pumps were kept going constantly for forty-eight hours, and the men, though much fatigued, laboured cheerfully; there were, however, so many holes in the bottom of the vessel, which could not be stopped, that she took water very fast; all attempts to heave her down and examine her failed, although by fixing cables to the icebergs or hummocks, and to anchors on shore, a sort of artificial harbour was formed round the Fury, in order to keep her as clear as possible; they never were, however, able to unship the rudder, because there was not sufficient water.

On the 6th of August, the water increased much, although the pumps were kept working from five o'clock in the morning till eight o'clock in the evening. The men were ex-

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cessively fatigued, and their allowance of provision was increased by a quarter of a pound of meat and a gill of rum per day.— It was now determined to land the stores, in order to lighten the Fury; in effecting this, Capt. Hoppner used a sort of crane, by which he hoisted the casks up, and run them along a cable on shore, which facilitated the landing of the stores very much; on the 8th, the spirits were landed; from this time to the 13th, the ice continued to close in on the ship; a strong fresh breeze sprung up, blowing from the N.N.W.; and another cable was now employed, in order to keep the ice as much as possible from the ship. The next day there was a strong wind. The water increased, and was eighteen inches in the well; the ice continued to tear the vessel so much, that one of the persons employed below looking out for the leaks, suddenly sprung to the hatchway, expecting she was going to pieces. Capt. Parry now sent Lieutenants Austin and Sherer and the master carpenter to examine the Fury, when they found that there was no chance of saving her.

On the 16th, a tent was pitched on shore for the men to sleep in; the next day they were employed in tightening the cables which were fixed to the hummocks, and in pumping out the water, and they had only three hours' rest. On the 18th, there was a snow storm, and the ice increased so much, that Capt. Parry began to fear that the Hecla would be locked in; a consultation of the officers was held, when it was resolved to get her out, and preparations were made for that purpose. It was also agreed to make an effort to get the Fury out into a more open sea, and examine her. On the 20th, Capt. Parry sent twelve of his men to work on the Fury; the wind had now shifted to the N.N.E. On the 21st, there was a high surf running on the beach, and more hawsers were employed to keep the ice from wedging in the Fury; the next day, she drifted further in shore, just as the tide began to fall, which banished all hopes of getting the Fury out; in the mean time, the Hecla was separated from her by a barrier of ice four miles broad, which induced Capt. Parry to recall his men, lest, if he delayed it longer, he might not be able to get them off. On the 24th, a south wind sprung up, and the ice between the vessels had increased so much, that the Hecla was five leagues from the Fury; all hope of saving her was now at an end, as she had nine feet water in the hold, and she was finally abandoned on the 26th of August, to the great regret of every person belonging to the expedition, and particularly Captain Hoppner, who, on the court martial, very feelingly described the painful emotions he felt on leaving a vessel he had, a short time before, felt so much pride in commanding.

We have already said that the voyage was not fertile in discovery, and yet some important facts have been ascertained, not only in navigation, but in medical science, which overturn the theories of the faculty. In managing the ships, Capt. Parry found the most signal advantages from Capt. Phillips's patent capstan, by which two men can do the work of fifty by the old method: this is so striking

an improvement, that Capt. Parry, on his return, lost no time in recommending it to the Lords of the Admiralty, who, with a laudable zeal for the service, gave immediate instructions that all the vessels of his Majesty's navy are in future to be fitted out with Capt. Phillips's new capstans. On the subject of magnetic attraction, we understand some very valuable and interesting discoveries have been made, which completely change the old theories on this subject.

One very curious fact was discovered during the voyage, and that is, that the more the body was charged with caloric the better did it withstand the cold. During the winter, the heat below deck was generally 68°, while on deck it was about 45° below Zero, and although the men frequently went from their heated apartments to this extreme cold, yet there was not a single instance of cough, cold, or catarrhal affection whatever among the crews of either vessel; the warm bath was frequently used, and was found highly beneficial in preventing the cold, and it was remarked that the more the body was heated immediately previous to going out on any excursion, the longer they could remain exposed to this cold without injury; and, that the cold was severe may be inferred from the circumstance, that the steam from the baths congealed in its ascent, and fell in a shower of snow.

The scenery in Prince Regent's Inlet is of the most magnificent description; the coast, in some places, presenting a front three hundred feet high almost perpendicular; this is supposed to be occasioned by the action of the water freezing in some crevices of the granite, and expanding it, like a wedge, until a portion of it becomes separated; this was inferred from the circumstance that large masses of granite were found on floating icebergs which made them sometimes be mistaken for land.

Few collections in natural history were made during the voyage; some botanical and entomological specimens, however, were obtained. A few deer were shot, and some Arctic bears, on which the dogs were fed; the old Esquimaux dog is still alive, but his mate died, not, however, until she had left a litter of puppies, which have also procreated, so that the breed is likely to be perpetuated. A good deal of grouse was obtained, which was found very seasonable. The voyagers never saw a human being, but found traces of them in various parts; should the poor Esquimaum meet with the stores that were left, they will be astonished, and at a loss to know what to do with the prize. Were another voyage to be made, it is probable that the Esquimaux would be found dressed in the uniform of Capt. Hoppner, or treasuring up articles of which they knew not the use; but it seems doubtful whether any other expedition will be sent out, in the same direction at least. These particulars, though very hastily written, are correct; and are, perhaps, nearly all that will transpire until Capt. Parry publishes his own narrative, which he will do in the course of the winter.

Captain Parry was well provided with

instruments, to enable him to take observations when the sun was not visible, but none of these were found to answer; the officers, however, were very actively employed in making observations, and Capt. Parry's journals are said to record many curious facts interesting to science. During the winter, the title of a newspaper could barely be read at noon-day on deck, so dense was the gloom which pervaded the atmosphere for many months; this dismal period was relieved by various entertainments, particularly masquerades, andwe know not whether the honest character of British sailors will think it a compliment or not, but many of them were very dexterous in their disguises. Nothing could be more social, consistent with proper discipline, than the officers and crews of the two vessels; they seemed like one happy family, the men proud of their officers, and the officers fully satisfied with the conduct of the men, who kept cheerful amidst all their privations and fatigues. When working at the Fury, they sometimes seemed to comprehend the orders of the officers with difficulty, owing to the languor of excessive fatigue, and a degree of stupor created by the cold—the intellect seemed, as it were, benumbed. We cannot, perhaps, better conclude this narrative than with the following anecdotes of the expedition:

During the time the crews were engaged in clearing the Fury, a regular current floating the ice past them at the rate of a mile and a half an hour, was to them a strong indication of an open sea not far distant. The Fury was completely cleared of everything, even of her coals, and the repairs nearly completed, when the Hecla was blown off; and when she returned and found her consort so nearly destroyed, a regular survey was made, and all hope of restoring her to service was given up. The officers speak of the ten months they were locked in the ice as a most dreary season. In one of the masquerades, Capt. Parry assumed the disguise of a poor enfeebled creature, scarcely able to totter above ground, and his disguise was so complete, that one of the crew who had personated an undertaker, declared him unfit for this world, took his measure, and proceeded, with some assistants, to dig a grave, into which they hurried their well-disguised captain, who was obliged to undeceive them, to prevent premature burial.

It has been stated, in the daily papers, that, of the two seamen who died, one was from accident—the other from disease; but the death of both resulted from accident, one having fallen on a block of ice and injured his back, which produced a diseased spine, and the loss of the other seems likely to give strength to the doctrine-orthodox among seamen, that a particular fate is attached to every man, whether on sea or on shore, Death will have his victim at the appointed hour. This seaman was one of four mates who went on a little expedition for curiosity, over a table mountain, unarmed; he separated from his companions, intending to make a little tour and rejoin them, but had not proceeded far, when he was pursued by a chronometers, and with some very ingenious | bear; to assist his speed, he threw off his

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snow shoes, or boots, and fled, till he got to the solicitations pressed on him, and has the edge of the rock, where he had to decide, in a moment, whether he would hurl himself down the almost perpendicular steep, or yield to his merciless enemy-he preferred the former, and tumbled himself down the side of the mountain, from a height of about three bundred feet, too steep for the bear to adventure. His comrades having discovered his boots, alarmed and astonished, now sought the poor fellow, found him senseless, and conveyed him to their birth. He reco vered gradually, and at the end of several weeks, was fully restored to the use of his limbs, when he was attacked by disease, and again narrowly escaped death. Shortly after this, he went on a shooting party, again separated from his companions, and fell through a chasm in the ice, where there was not more than four feet depth of water. The cold soon rendered exertion impossible, and he was taken out frozen to death—his body becoming solid and stiff as a compact lump of ice. He was, however, immediately carned to the vessel, where every exertion possible was used to restore animation, but ineffectually. It is supposed that he was reaching after a bird that he had shot, and that his foot slipped. He has left a widow and several children, three of whom are in the Greenwich Hospital School.

The following additional particulars are from The Times of Wednesday :---

'During the voyage an observatory was erected on shore, in which the officers spent much of their time in making and recording

'The garden was attended to as before: but the herbs reared in it did not at all compensate for the trouble bestowed upon them. Some cucumbers were grown in glasses, in the summer, but not of a very large description. The winter was milder than any which the expedition previously experienced; and one proof of it is, that the ships were not laid up in their winter quarters till the 8th of October this time, though in their former voyages they had been laid up about the 22d or 23d of September. There have been no new discoveries made in any branch of natural history. Several collections of insects, &c. have been made, but few which were not known before their last voyage.—The ptarmagans were plentiful, and some fine specimens of them have been brought home. Grouse were also shot occasionally, and formed a delightful change in the messes of the ships' companies. Great attention was paid to their diet, and the good effects of it were visible in the healthy state of the crew. The men in general seem uninjured by the harsh climates they have left.'

In the press, a Defence of the Royal College of Surgeons, being a refutation of the charges brought against the members of the court of assistants, by a physician, in an address lately published.

Mr. Colburn will shortly publish a romance by Ann Radcliffe, author of the Mysteries of Udolpho. Since the death of this celebrated lady, which took place in 1823, Mr. Radcliffe, her husband, has yielded to I

consented that her last romance, which will be found quite worthy of her fame, should be given to the world.

A gentleman belonging to Arbroath found, some time ago, a pebble, or onyx stone, about the size of a hen's egg. It was very fine, and of a beautiful colour. On the stone being cut, there was found a small cavity in the centre, which contained about an ounce of beautifully clear water. It was inclosed in a coat or crust that had the appearance of lime, but very hard, and mixed with a kind of rough sand of a dark brown colour.

A new Oriental Literary institution has been established at Orenburg, in Russia. The chan of the minor Kirgische hordes was present. Among the students were three young Kirgische Tartars, in their national costume.—Journal de Frankfort.

A most important discovery has recently been made of original letters and papers, written by Henry Hyde, second Earl of Clarendon, and Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, during the reign of James II.

With the above have also been brought to light a series of original manuscript notebooks of Sir Edward Hyde, afterwards Earl of Clarendon, and Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain. They contain reports of debates in the House of Commons during the interregnum, from the year 1656 to 1659, the contents of which have never yet appeared in any printed collection of parliamentary proceedings. The chasm which has long been lamented as existing in this most interesting period of the English annals will thus

be filled in an early publication. Interior of Africa.—We have learnt the arrival of M. J. R. Pacho at the lazaretto of Marseilles. This French traveller has succeeded in overcoming all the obstacles which have seemed hitherto to oppose an insurmountable bar to any entrance into Cyrenaica, by the way of Marmarica. Having spent six months in traversing the desert between the Gulf of Bomban and the tower of Euphrautas, which divided the ancient colony of Battus from the government of Carthage, the courageous traveller explored, not without risk, the whole of the ruins to be found in that classic ground, where he collected a great number of inscriptions. From Cyrenaica, M. Pacho went to Audjelah, whence he made an excursion to the basis of the Hesperides, the situation of which perfectly agrees with that ascribed to it by Strabo.

An Iron Boat.—A boat of sheet iron, intended for a passage boat, from Columbia, on the Susquehannah, to Northumberland, is constructing at York, in Pennsylvania.

The boat has sixty feet keel, nine feet beam, and is three feet high; she is composed entirely of sheet iron, rivetted with iron rivets; and the ribs, which are one foot apart, are stripes of sheet iron, which by their peculiar form are supposed to possess thrice the strength of the same weight of iron in the square or flat form. The whole weight of iron in the boat, when she shall be finished, will be 3400lbs.; that of the wood-work, deck, cabin, &c. will be 2600lbs.; being together three tons; the steam engine, the l cated to his son Maximilian. The feast last-

boiler included, will weigh two tons; making the whole weight of the boat and engine but five tons. She will draw, when launched, but five inches, and every additional ton which may be put on board of her will sink her one inch in the water. The engine is upon the high pressure principle, calculated to bear six hundred pounds to the inch, and the engine will be worked with not more than one hundred pounds to the inch. It will have an eight horse power, and the boiler is formed so that the anthracite coal will be extensively used to produce steam. The ingenuity with which the boiler is constructed, and its entire competency for burning the Susquehannah coal, are entitled to particular notice, and the inventors, if they succeed in this experiment, will be entitled to the thanks of every Pennsylvanian. The boiler is so constructed, as that every part of the receptacle for the fire is surrounded by the water intended to be converted into steam; and thus the iron is preserved from injury by the excessive heat produced by the combustion of the coal. Its form is cylindrical; its length about six feet, and it will be placed upright in the boat, occupying, with the whole engine, not more than ten feet by six feet. The engine is nearly completed. The boat is in great forwardness. The whole cost of the boat and engine will be three thousand dollars .- United States Gazette.

THE BEE,

OR, FACTS, FANCIES, AND RECOLLECTIONS. Admiral Byng. — In the vault belonging to the Torrington family, in the church of Southill, in Bedfordshire, is the following epitaph to his memory:

> To the Perpetual Disgrace Of Public Justice, The Honourable John Byng, Esq. Admiral of the Blue, Fell a Martyr to Political Persecution, March 14, in the year 1757; When Bravery and Loyalty Were insufficient securities For the Life and Honour of A Naval Officer.

Feasting in Germany.—On extraordinary occasions, the feasting was prolonged for days, weeks, or months; and of such entertainments, some idea may be formed from what was exhibited at the nuptials of William of Rosenberg with Anna, Margravine of Baden, where there were 40 bucks, 50 does, 20 haunches of venison, 2130 hares, 250 pheasants, and only 30 woodcocks; 2050 partridges, 150 oxen, 546 calves, 654 swine, 450 sheep, 3135 geese, 5135 fowls, 18,120 carps, 10,289 pikes, 6380 trouts, 5200 crabs; of smoked fish, 7690 stock-fish, 79 lampreys, four jacks, 78 herrings, 30,000 eggs (oysters were yet unknown in Bohemia). Of wines, Rhenish, Austrian, Tyrolese, 1100 vats; of Spanish wine, 40 tuns, including Greek wines imported from Candia to Venice; of Bohemia beer, 900 casks. The horses consumed 3703 measures of oats. Of the guests, the principal were the bride's mother, Philip Margrave of Baden, the Dukes of Bavaria, Albert, and William, who, in 1596, abdied from the 26th of January until the 1st of March.

EPIGRAM.

For sparkling wit, for knowledge and for sense, The world allows Cleara fair pretence: Envy her not! for still remain behind, Malice and hatred, and a treach rous mind.

Names of the Months given by the Saxons. -Our Saxon ancestors could give more satisfactory reasons for the names of their months than we can for ours. December, which stood first, was styled 'Mid-winter Monath.' January was, 'Aefter-yula,' or after Christmas. February, 'Solmonath,' from the returning sun. March, 'Rhede, or Rethe-monath,' rough or rugged month. April, 'Easter-monath,' from a Saxon goddess, whose name we still preserve. May was, 'Trimilchi,' from the cows being then milked thrice in the day. June, 'Sere-monath,' dry month. July, 'Mæd-monath,' the meads being then in their bloom. August was, 'Weed-monath,' from the luxuriance of weeds. September, 'Hærfest-monath.' October they called 'Winter-fyllith,' from winter approaching with the full moon of that month. And, lastly, November was styled 'Blot-monath,' from the blood of the cattle slain in that month, and stored for winter provision. Verstegan names the month somewhat differently.

Armorial Bearings.—Our first kings used for their seal their own image on horseback; afterwards, great men used their arms, when these became settled and hereditary. About the time of Edward the Third, seals became common among all the gentry. Mackenzie and Nisbet remark, that they served, in deeds, without the subscription of any name, till this was ordered in Scotland by James V., in 1540, and about the same time in Eng-

The Title of Esquire.—In 1413, Dr. Fuller remarks that John Golope was the first person who assumed the title of Esquire; and that until the end of Henry the Sixth's reign, such distinctions were not used, except in law probeedings. Yet Ordoericus Vitalis, as early as A. D. 1124, speaks of the Earl of Mellent, who, endeavouring to escape from the troops of Henry Beauclerc, and being seized by a countryman, bribed him to set him free, and to shave him, 'in the guise of an esquire'—Instar Armigeri, by which means he eluded his pursuers.

Day of the Month.	8 o'clock Morning	1 o'c'ock Noon.	Ho'clock Night.	Barom 1 o'clock Noon.	Weather
Oct. 21	38	44	35	29 54	Fair.
22	42	50	39	99	Do.
23	37	45	45	30 14	Foggy.
24	50	56	45	29 92	Cloudy.
25	43	46	37	95	Fair.
26	33	46	39	30 05	Do.
27	44	46	44	081	Do.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

WE beg to call the attention of our readers to a very interesting and authentic narrative of Capt. Parry's last voyage to the Arctic regions, in our present number.

Alost's favour has been duly received.

Zephyrina and Paul Patronage have also come to hand.

The reviews of the Camisard, Attic Fragments, Tales of the Wild and Wonderful, and other new works, are deferred until our next.

A general order is given to return unpaid letters.

Works just published.—The Plays of Clara Gazul, 8vo. 9s.—Memoirs of Monkeys, foolscap, 6s — Lardner's Differential and Integral Calculars, 8vo 21s — Schlummacher's Critical Essay on St. Luke, 8vo. 13s .- Ferdinand Franck, 4s.—Peep at the Esquimaux, 6s - Industry: a Tale of Real Life, 6s - Diamond Shakspeare, aine vols. 48mo. 2l. 17s -Illustrations to Ditto, thertyeight plates, 11 18s.—Tales of the Wild and Wonderful, 10s 6d.—Old English Drama, two vols. post 8vo. 11.

This day is published, in foolscap 8vo. price 6s. MEMOIRS of MONKEYS, &c. &c. Printed for Geo. B Whittaker, Ave-Maria Lane. This day is published, in three vols. 12mo. price 21s. THE CAMISARD; or, the Protestants

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The following will appear this Winter:—
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